SUNDAY TIMES, DECEMBER 21, 1930.

LONDON LATE EDN.—SEA DISASTER: SURVIVORS' STORIES

Sunday Times

Established 1822.

and SUNDAY SPECIAL.

108th Year of Issue.

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LONDON, DECEMBER 21, 1930.

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7.30 p.m. Special Dinner ...
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Thursday, Dec. 25th (Xmas Day).

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Sunday, Dec. 28th.

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Souvenirs for Lady Guests.
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Midnight Surprise: New Year's Revelry ... ... } 17/6

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[illegible]

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LONDON'S FOUR UP-TO-DATE RESIDENTIAL HOTELS

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[illegible]

LANCASTER COURT HOTEL

[illegible]

PARK ROYAL HOTEL

[illegible]

BERKELEY COURT HOTEL

[illegible]

A CHRISTMAS WELCOME

awaits you at the

ORCHARD HOTEL

Portman Street, Marble Arch, W.1

MASCOT HOTEL

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MILESTONE

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De Vere Gardens, Kensington, W.8

[illegible]

For particulars see page 19.

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Attractive Christmas Programme.

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Double rooms from 7 guineas.

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Weybridge, Surrey—only half-an-hour from London.

The Oatlands Park Hotel, a truly palatial successor of Henry VIII.'s Palace of Otelandes, has a private Golf Course and Tennis Courts in its 60-acre grounds, while attractions indoors include a covered Badminton Court and a splendid new Ballroom. The peaceful atmosphere of the old Palace still lingers, however, creating that congenial spirit which makes each visitor feel he is a welcome, honoured guest. In addition, there is every amenity for the discriminating, including telephone and running hot and cold water in each of the 150 bedrooms.

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Inclusive Daily Terms ... 18/-

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Dec. 31—SUPPER, DANCE & CABARET. 12/6

First-class Cuisine and Wines.

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Under New Direction.

PALACE HOTEL

LANCASTER GATE, W.2.

[illegible]

REDECORATED and REFURNISHED.

[illegible]

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

Dec. 24th. [illegible] 8/6

Dec. 25th. [illegible] 10/6

Dec. 26th. [illegible] 12/6

Dec. 31st. [illegible] 12/6

LARGE BEAUTIFUL BALLROOM.

[illegible]

OPEN TO NON-RESIDENTS.

[illegible]

Where you are an Honoured Guest:

ALEXANDRA HOTEL

Hyde Park Corner, London, S.W.1.

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MR. R. J. BRAY

wishes his friends

ALL THE GOOD THINGS OF THE SEASON.

HOTEL RIPOSO.

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GOLF ON PRIVATE 18-HOLE GOLF COURSE (6,355 yards) in own park of 230 acres. Luxurious car service between Hotel and East Croydon Station. Billiards, Tennis, Dancing. All Free. Hot and Cold Water, Radiator and Telephone in every bedroom. Numerous suites and rooms with private bathroom. Electric Lifts. Fully Licensed.

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Every Saturday Dinner and Dance, 10/6. BILLY MASON'S "Café de Paris" Band.

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Quiet, Comfort, Convenience.

Reasonable Charges.

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LUNCHES, DINNERS, SUPPERS,

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[illegible] OPEN ON SUNDAYS.

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PRE-WAR TERMS

AT THE

ROYAL STUART HOTEL,

151-163, CROMWELL ROAD,

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[illegible]

BOOK NOW

[illegible] for the WINTER at

SUNDRIDGE MANSION HOTEL

BROMLEY, KENT.

[illegible] TWO 18-HOLE COURSES of the Sundridge Park Golf Club at the door. [illegible] COSY LOUNGES WITH BLAZING LOG FIRES. [illegible] THE MOST POPULAR FAMILY HOTEL EXTANT.

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'Phone: Welbeck 8041. Telegrams: Hotel Quebec, London.

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'Phone: Welbeck 3464. Telegrams: Seymour Hotel, London.

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MARLBOROUGH PLACE, ROYAL PAVILION.

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PRIVATE AND RESIDENTIAL.

Fully Licensed. Lift to all floors.

68 Bedrooms.

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Facing full South.

ATTRACTIVE XMAS PROGRAMME

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NEWLANDS CORNER HOTEL

Near GUILDFORD.

XMAS DAY.

[illegible]

EASTBOURNE.

QUEEN'S HOTEL

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Fully licensed first-class Hotel, own grounds on sea front. Electric Radiators. H.&C. water every room. Central Heating. Lifts. Garage. Perfect Cuisine and Service.

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HINDHEAD, SURREY.

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SPECIAL XMAS PROGRAMME.

XMAS and NEW YEAR

at the

ALBION HOTEL,

EASTBOURNE.

Fully Licensed. All Modern Conveniences.

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SUNNY EXMOUTH, SOUTH DEVON

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IDEAL WINTER RESIDENCE.

Facing South. First-class Cuisine.

Central Heating. H and C Water in Bedrooms (40).

Apply for REDUCED WINTER TERMS.

Christmas Programme now ready.

T. MILDON, Manager.

HAMPSTEAD

ROSSLYN LODGE HOTEL.

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CHALFONT PARK HOTEL

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BOURNEMOUTH'S LEADING HOTEL.

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On the SEA FRONT—unique views.

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BEACH HOTEL.

A Hotel of charm and distinction facing South and Sea. Hot and cold water all bedrooms. Vi-spring mattresses. Central heating. Open fires. Every comfort. Fully licensed. Special dietary. Home killed meat. Produce from own gardens. An ideal winter residence free from servant troubles at moderate terms.

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Orchestra. Dancing. Badminton.

CHRISTMAS TERMS 18/- to 25/- DAILY.

Special Terms for prolonged stay.

Hot and Cold water all bedrooms. Centrally heated throughout. Private Suites with Bathroom, etc. Sunny Sea View Terraces. 'Phone 657.

HOTEL TUDOR

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HOTEL STUART

[illegible]

HOTEL NORMAN

[illegible]

CARLTON ROAD, PUTNEY HILL, S.W.15.

[illegible]

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

EARL'S COURT HOTEL

[illegible]

[illegible]

THE LIMPLEY STOKE HYDRO HOTEL

WINTER TERMS ASTONISHINGLY LOW.

[illegible]

SOUTH DEVON.

DUNMORE HOTEL.

SHALDON [illegible] Sea Views.

A REALLY FIRST-CLASS HOTEL.

SPECIAL WINTER TERMS.

APPLY FOR CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.

Private Suites. Central Heating. Fully Licensed.

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Sunshine and Sea Breezes!

ST. AUSTELL AND CARLYON.

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MOST IDEAL WINTER RESORT IN ENGLAND.

18-Hole Golf Course, Hard Tennis Courts, Hot and Cold Sea Baths, Central Heating, Vita Glass Sun Lounges. Dancing: Famous West Country Band.

Inclusive Terms from October-April, from 4½ Gns. weekly

Apply Manager or London Office: 118, Newgate St., E.C.

HAREFIELD PLACE,

UXBRIDGE.

[illegible]

HAREFIELD PLACE COUNTRY CLUB,

UXBRIDGE [illegible]

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

[illegible]

LILLEY BROOK HOTEL,

Charlton Kings, Cheltenham Spa.

[illegible]

THE HIND'S HEAD HOTEL, BRAY.

[illegible]

Visit DEVON now and stay at the

BEDFORD HOTEL, TAVISTOCK

[illegible]

Delightful scenery. Real Home Comforts. Best English catering, no chilled or foreign meat. Vegetables from own garden. Fully licensed. H. & C. water in all bedrooms. Under personal supervision.

W. L. LAKE, *Proprietor.*

XMAS IN DEVON AT THE

ROUGEMONT HOTEL, EXETER

Attractive Yuletide Festivities. First Class London Band. Exhibition Dancers. Every comfort. Excellent Food. Central Heating. Fully Licensed. Hot and Cold Running Water. Terms for Xmas Week

FROM 16/6 DAILY

Write for programme of attractions—Proprietor

BOLTON MANSIONS HOTEL

[illegible]

PRINCES COURT

[illegible]

HENDON HALL, LONDON, N.W.4.

[illegible]

THE RED HOUSE, LEATHERHEAD.

First-class residential Hotel delightful surroundings, 10 acres, hard courts, billiards. 5 mins. golf course, excellent cuisine, comfortable lounges, gas fires, h. & c. in bedrooms. 3 mins. stn., 30 mins. town. 'Phone 164.

HOTELS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.

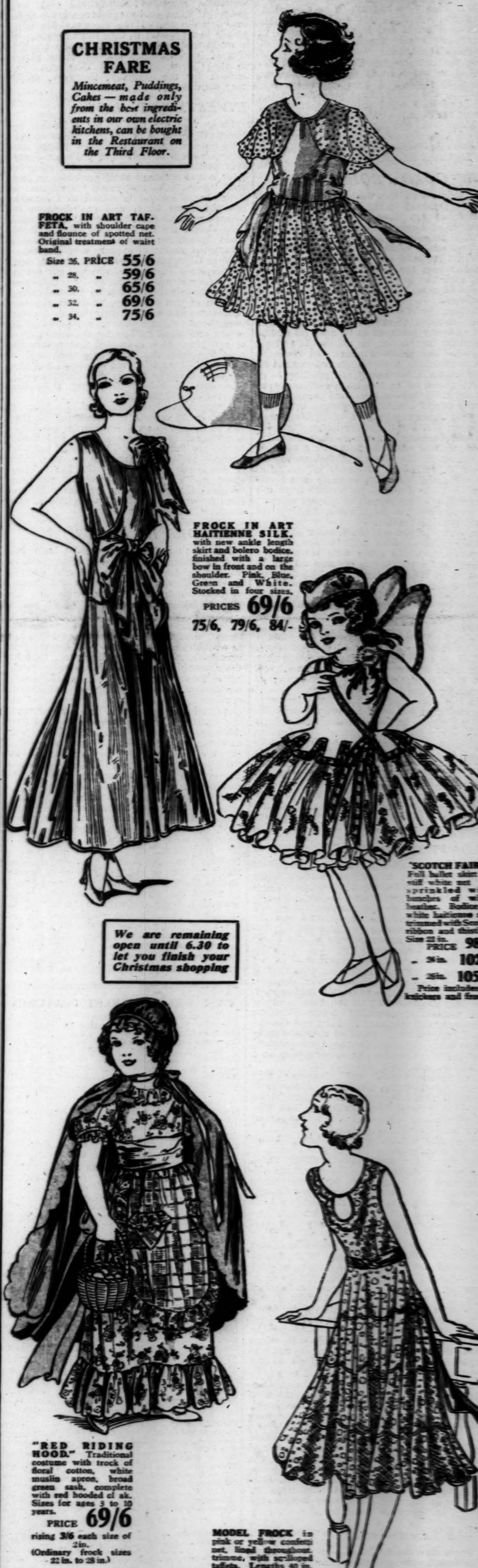
BACK FROM SCHOOL

the Young things clamour for "Party Dresses." Some of their friends invite them to practise the art of "Dressing-up," others require only the conventional garb for enjoyment.

In any case, Youth has decided she must CHOOSE FOR HERSELF, and a wise mother guides her choice by taking her to the JUVENILE DEPARTMENT ON THE SECOND FLOOR. There, it is practically impossible to make an error in taste, and even though so many variations confront her, one is bound to make her look her attractive best.

CHRISTMAS FARE

Mincemeat, Puddings, Cakes — made only from the best ingredients in our own electric kitchens, can be bought in the Restaurant on the Third Floor.



FROCK IN ART TAFFETA, with shoulder cape and flounce of spotted net. Original treatment of waist band.

Size		Price
26.	PRICE	55/6
28.	"	59/6
30.	"	65/6
32.	"	69/6
34.	"	75/6

FROCK IN ART HAITIENNE SILK, with new ankle length skirt and bolero bodice, finished with a large bow in front and on the shoulder. Pink, Blue, Green and White. Stocked in four sizes.

PRICES **69/6** 75/6, 79/6, 84/-

"SCOTCH FAIRY" Full ballet skirt of stiff white net besprinkled with bunches of white heather. Bodice of white haitienne silk trimmed with Scotch ribbon and thistles. Size 22 in. PRICE **98/6**

" 24 in. **102/-**

" 26 in. **105/6**

Price includes knickers and frock.

We are remaining open until 6.30 to let you finish your Christmas shopping

"RED RIDING HOOD." Traditional costume with frock of floral cotton, white muslin apron, broad green sash, complete with red hooded cloak. Sizes for ages 3 to 10 years.

PRICE **69/6**

rising 3/6 each size of 2in.

(Ordinary frock sizes 22 in. to 28 in.)

SENT ON APPROVAL.

MODEL FROCK in pink or yellow confetti net, lined throughout, trimmed with scalloped taffeta. Lengths 40 in. and 42 in., but with smaller fittings.

PRICE, both sizes **6½ Gns**

MARSHALL & SNELGROVE

DEBENHAMS LTD

VERE·STREET AND·OXFORD·STREET·LONDON·W1

CITY CHATTER.

A FIRMER FINISH—NEW GOLD PRODUCERS—FACTORS IN MINES—OILS DEPRESSED—RUBBER CONSUMPTION.

(R. J. BARRETT, Financial Editor.)

Although bear operations caused a fairly general recovery towards the close, it has been another unsatisfactory week on the Stock Exchange. It is feared that the financial crisis in the United States has not yet run its course, and the position on the Continent is also distressed, while liquidation from various Provincial centres has made itself felt. A certain amount of forced selling may always be expected at this season, owing to the calling in of loans by the banks, and on the present occasion this factor has operated to an unusually severe extent.

British funds remained comparatively immune amid the surrounding depression, the only serious new competitor being the London and Home Counties Electricity issue, with its yield of under 4½ per cent. free of stamp duty.

Argentine Rails, after sinking to still lower depths, suddenly rallied on the suggestion that measures may be taken to improve the value of the Argentine dollar. This view appears to be somewhat premature, but there can be no reasonable doubt that prices had been forced down to unduly low levels, largely as the result of American liquidation.

For the same reason Brazilian bonds descended to lower levels than the situation seemed to justify. A good impression was caused by the sinking fund purchases of the Rescission loan being duly effected, but in view of the default—which it is hoped is only temporary—on Rio de Janeiro 7 per cent., there is naturally some doubt as to how long the Federal Government can continue to meet its obligations in full.

NEW GOLD PRODUCERS.

An increase in the world's production of gold is generally acknowledged to be imperative, as any shortage of supplies of the metal which forms the basis of currency and credit in all save the silver-using countries of the East would cause serious embarrassment. If credit facilities are to be extended it is essential that the gold output should keep pace with the growth of world trade. The advent of new producers is therefore to be welcomed. [illegible]

INDUSTRIAL POINTS.

[illegible]

Town Investments.

Town Investments, Ltd.—to which attention [illegible]

[illegible] where the Canadian Pacific Railway aims at erecting the finest hotel in the world.

The investment of large sums on such acquisitions has temporarily involved some contraction in revenue, but at last week's meeting the chairman, [illegible], had little difficulty in justifying a small draft on the reserve fund in order to maintain a dividend which, in reality, has been fully earned. His prediction of a still larger employment of capital in property by safety-first investors, judging by the success of existing real estate companies, seems likely to be realised.

Crittall Prospects.

At the Crittall meeting the chairman, Sir Valentine Crittall, emphasised the strong features of the company's position, referred to last Sunday. The company has now established within six years a highly efficient organisation for the manufacture, distribution, and sale on an economic and profitable basis of metal-framed windows, now regarded as an essential element of modern building construction. Evidence of continued success is to be found in the fact that, despite the use of every conceivable labour-saving device, the number of workers employed has substantially increased within the past five years. At home good progress continues to be made, while abroad the company has been placed in a position to take full advantage of a world trade recovery through the acquisition of large capacity manufacturing plants in the United States and Germany. The outlook for the company, therefore, seems very satisfactory.

INVESTMENT HINTS.

Those who are looking for a foreign investment which is out of the range of possible international disturbances might consider Kingdom of Iceland 5½ per cent. Forty-year Sterling Bonds. Priced at 92, these receive a first dividend at 2¾ per cent. in May and their full half-yearly dividend in November. Iceland is united to Denmark, has the same king, and has declared its permanent neutrality. A Budget surplus has been shown for the last two years, and the trade figures for 1927 and 1928 disclosed a substantial excess of exports over imports.

West Gloucester Power Co. 6½ per cent. Participating Preference, which is not yet receiving dividends, stands at 16. Reference has previously been made to the improving [illegible]

FACTORS IN MINES.

[illegible] consideration. The combined undertaking will have the support of Messrs. Rothschild and Messrs. [illegible].

During the week copper had a severe relapse; tin and lead touched lower levels than for many years, while zinc and silver were cheaper than ever previously recorded. Nevertheless, share quotations displayed no great movement apart from Rio Tinto.

OILS DEPRESSED.

As a result of the weakness in America and the heavy selling of stocks in New York, which brought many down to new low records for the year, the Oil share market presented a depressing appearance during the greater part of the week. Local selling was not particularly heavy, but in the prevailing uncertainty prospective buyers kept in the background. The low levels at which the leading oil shares are now standing would appear to discount any pending cuts in dividends.

The declaration of a final dividend of 10 per cent., making a total of 25 per cent. for the year, by the Apex (Trinidad) Oilfields, caused some disappointment, the market generally having expected a final payment of 15 per cent.; but satisfaction was derived from the fact that a larger distribution could have been made had it not been considered prudent to restrict the dividend in view of the position of the oil industry.

The Mexican Eagle interim report created a favourable impression. Production and shipments were shown to have increased during the year, and it was stated that the financial results of the company for 1930 should not compare unfavourably with those of 1929. It will be remembered that the report presented in July last showed profits to be double those of the previous year, while a dividend of 6 per cent. was paid on the Ordinary shares, this being the first since 1922.

RUBBER CONSUMPTION.

American consumption of raw rubber during November was reported at 23,480 tons, against 27,271 tons in October. This figure was slightly below general expectations, and is the lowest level recorded during the last two years. In December, 1929, only 23,531 tons were consumed, while the highest total recorded was in May last year, when the 50,000 ton level was almost reached.

Commodity prices gave way sharply on the weakness in New York, where it was understood that the arrivals there of rubber, which amounted to 31,765 tons during November, had been freely offered.

Business in the shares was still very limited, with the leading issues slightly lower. Continued progress is reported in the cutting down of output by estates. Since the first list of eighty companies which had announced a curtailed programme of tapping was published, forty-seven further concerns have notified a reduction in their crops.

Tea shares were quiet and rather easier. Demand at the auctions was quite satisfactory, and the total average price worked out at 1s. 2.98d., against 1s. 2.84d. the previous week, and 1s. 2.90d. a year ago.

THE OUTLOOK.

Conditions do not improve as the end of [illegible]

PAST WEEK'S MARKET FEATURES

[illegible]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

[illegible]

MONEY MARKET.

SEASONAL DEMAND FOR CURRENCY.

SATURDAY Afternoon.

Conditions in the Money Market during the past week have to some extent been influenced by the Christmas demand for cash, the clearing banks having made fairly substantial calls upon the market in connection with balancing operations and an increased inquiry for currency which is a normal feature at this period of the year.

The supply of short money has consequently contracted further, and each day there has been a brisk demand for fresh advances at rates ranging from 1½ to 2 per cent.

Discount rates have become distinctly firmer in sympathy with money and the continued steady drain of gold from the Bank of England on French account, a further £2,188,985 in bars having left the central institution for Paris since last Monday. Some offset to these exports, however, occurred on Wednesday, when the Bank received nearly £1,000,000 in sovereigns from Brazil. At the moment the general quotation for three months fine bank bills is 2¼ per cent., while the new Treasury bills which were allotted yesterday at an average discount rate of £2 10s. 3.41d. per cent. changed hands to-day also around 2½ per cent.

In the foreign exchange market the German rate, after rising to 20.37½, has fallen back slightly to 20.37¼.

—	Method of quoting.	Par of exch.	Quotations. Dec. 20	Quotations. Dec. 13
Paris, cheques	Fr. to £	124.21	123.58-.61	123.59-.62
Berlin	Mks. to £	20.43	20.37-37½	20.36-.36¼
Brussels, ch'ques	Belga to £	35.00	34.76-.76½	34.76¾-.77¼
Amst'rd'm. chqs.	Fl. to £	12.107	12.05¾-.06¼	12.05½-.¾
Italy, sight	Lire to £	92.46	92.75-92.78	92.70-92.73
Greece	Drch. to £	375	374¼-375¼	374¾-375¼
Madrid, sight	Pes. to £	25.22½	45.60-45.70	47.85-47.95
Lisbon, sight	Escudo	4.50	101⅛-⅜	108⅛-⅜
Switz'rl'nd, sight	Fr. to £	25.22½	25.00-.00½	25.02¾-.03¼
Oslo, sight	Kr. to £	18.159	18.15¾-.16	18.15¾-.16
Stockholm, sight	Kr. to £	18.159	18.09¾-.10¼	18.09½-.10
Copenhagen, s'gt	Kr. to £	18.159	18.16-.16½	18.15½-.16
Helsingfors	Mks. to £	193.23	192¾-193	192¾-193
Vienna	Sh. to £	34.58½	34.47-34.[illegible]	34.48-34.50
Alexandria, sight	Piatrs. to £	97½	97⅜-97[illegible]	97⅜-97⅝
Prague	Kr. to £	164.25	163⅝-¾	163⅝-¾
Bucharest	Lei to £	813.6	817-819	817-819
Bombay, T.T.	d. to rupee	18d.	1s. 5[illegible]d.	1s. 5[illegible]d.
Calcutta, T.T.	d. to rupee	18d.	1s. 5[illegible]d.	1s. 5[illegible]d.
Hong Kong, T.T.	d. to dol.	—	1s. 1¾d.	1s. 1[illegible]d.
Shanghai, T.T.	d. to tael	—	1s. 5⅛d.	1s. 5[illegible]d.
Singapore, T.T.	d. to dol.	2s. 4d.	2s. 3¾d.	2s. 3¾d.
Kobe	Yen	24.57d.	2s. 0⅛d.	2s. 0⅛d.
New York, cable	Dol. to £	4.86⅔	4.85⅝-[illegible]	4.85[illegible]
Montreal, cable	Dol. to £	4.86⅔	4.86¼-½	4.86⅛-⅜
Rio de J., T.T.	d. to mil.	5.89d.	4[illegible]	4[illegible]
Buenos A's, T.T.	Dollar	47.58d.	36⅞-37	37[illegible]
Valp'r'iso, 90d'ys	Pesos to £	40	39.93	39.92
Montevideo, T.T.	d. to dol.	51d.	36-36½	36¾-37¼
Lima	Sols to £	12.166	16.22½	16.25

ALGOMA COMPANIES.

REORGANISATION SCHEME TO BE SUBMITTED.

A scheme for the reorganisation of the Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway Company, Algoma Central Terminals, and the Lake Superior Corporation has now been drawn up. The plan provides (*inter alia*) for the formation of a holding company, the reduction of capitals, and the exchange of securities. The above companies are allied with the Algoma Steel Corporation, which is also interested in the scheme.

Under the plan proposed the share and loan capitals of the Railway and Terminal Companies are to be reduced and reorganised to bring them into closer relation to values and earning capacity. The Railway and Terminal bondholders will receive new securities of these companies in part satisfaction of their claims, and a part of the Terminal Bonds is to be paid off in cash out of the proceeds of certain assets which are to be sold.

The Lake Superior Corporation is to transfer to a holding company approximately one-third of its assets for shares in the holding company, which are then to be vested in trustees for the benefit of the railway bondholders. The holding company is to acquire a considerable holding of securities of the Railway Company and the Rilway Bondholders will receive in part satisfaction of their claims securities of the holding company. The holding company is to acquire control of the Lake Superior Corporation, and will thus control the Steel Company. In consideration of the above the guarantees and arrears of interest on the Railway and Terminal Bonds are to be cancelled.

The new securities of the Railway and Terminal Companies will not be guaranteed by Lake Superior Corporation.

BRITISH CYANIDES.

MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS WITH GERMAN COMPANY.

It is announced that the British Cyanides Co. has concluded an agreement with H. Roemmler A.G. Berlin-Spremberg, a company in the Brown Boveri group, for mutual co-operation in the manufacture and sale of moulding powders of the Beetle type.

The interests in Germany of British Cyanides will be represented by Roemmler and those of Roemmler throughout the British Empire by Cyanides. The Beetle Products Co., in conjunction with Brookes and Adams, has concluded agreements with firms in Australia for moulding Bandalasta and Harlequin tableware in that country from Beetle powders.

These arrangements, it is stated, should result in an immediate expansion of the revenues of British Cyanides.

RUBBER QUIET.

Conditions in the Mincing Lane rubber market were very quiet yesterday, and, with the exception of the April-June and October-December quotations, prices were unchanged.

Spot, December and January, finished at 4 5-16d., Jan.-March at 4⅜d., April-June 4½d. July-Sept., 4 11-16d., Oct.-Dec. 4 13-16d., and Jan.-Dec. at 4 9-16d.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Rubber (Outside).—Steady. First Latex crepe Spot 8⅝ buyers, Smoked Ribbed Sheets Spot 8⅝ buyers, 8 5-8 sellers; January-February-March 8 5-8 buyers; April-May-June 8 7-8 buyers, 9 sellers; on Rubber Exchange of New York (Closing) Contract "A."—Steady 10 points down to 10 up. December 8.40, January, 8.50, March, 8.60, May, 8.80, July 9.10, September 9.30. Sales, 82 lots.—Reuter.

INCOME-TAX QUERIES.

H. J. P.—Tenant can pay tax and can deduct that tax from rent so long as what he deducts does not exceed tax upon rent.

F.—As you wholly maintain dependent relative and her income is only £48 per annum, you should appeal to Commissioners for allowance of full £25.

Pem.—The annual allowance to which you refer is earned income and you can claim deduction of five-sixths of amount subject to maximum allowance of £45.

T. A. B.—You can claim to deduct two-thirds of assessed value of house—i.e., two-thirds of £90. You cannot claim any deduction in respect of any part of £600.

M.—In calculating total income for tax purposes you must include annual value of house you own and occupy. If income, including this, does not exceed £135 a year, you will have no tax to pay.

D. C. M.—Income-tax is payable on all Army pensions and allowances except disablement pensions. You cannot make claim in respect of daughter aged 19 who is probationer nurse earning small salary.

Virius.—Neither you nor mother is liable to tax on remittances made by brother if these are made as free gift. If they are made in respect of any rights which you or mother have in property or possession out of which brother's income arises, then you are liable.

Trustee.—Trustees will have to pay tax on assessed annual value of any property forming part of trust. As to whether trustees can carry out transaction, that is matter for legal opinion in light of all terms of trust deed or other instrument creating trust.

Aigburth.—Income-tax is only deductible from interest. If £200 is repayment of principal, no tax can be deducted from any part of it. If it represents original capital plus accumulated interest at covenanted rate, tax would be deductible from accumulated interest.

Snaffle.—The income-tax payable on house depends entirely on assessed annual value, and this you do not give. You can find amount by deducting statutory repairs allowance from gross annual value and calculating tax on net at 4s. 6d. in £. As to repairs allowance, see reply to "Polperro."

Polperro.—You are entitled to repairs allowance on house whether you do repairs or not. The statutory allowance is one-quarter of gross assessed value up to £40, fixed sum of £10 on any value between £40 and £50, one-fifth of assessed value on any value between £50 and £100, and on any value over £100 allowance is £20, plus one-sixth of value in excess of £100.

WALL STREET IRREGULAR.

MANY EARLY GAINS RECORDED.

PROFIT-TAKING CHECKS THE ADVANCE.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

With yesterday's smaller turnover regarded as encouraging—being interpreted as an indication that the market was consolidating the recent gains—the tendency at the opening was firm.

Among the issues to record early advances were Standard Gas up 1¼, Kennecott Copper, Case Threshing Machine and Baltimore and Ohio 1, American Telephone and Telegraph 1¼, American Can, Anaconda Copper, American Power and Light, and Northern Pacific ¾, and U.S. Steel ¾.

On the other hand, American Smelting and Refining declined 1¼, National Cash Register 1¼, Allied Chemical ¾ and New York Central ¾.

A rally in Utilities, which yesterday were somewhat neglected, gave the market a steady tone in quiet trading, whereas profit-taking checked an advance in other sections, particularly Rails. The market early advanced substantially, but wavered finally when small gains and losses generally prevailed.

Weekly mercantile reports showed little change in the trend of holiday trade, in which price reductions have been the important stimulus. The winter catalogue of one of the leading mail order houses shows price reductions ranging from 6 to 18 per cent. The tendency at the close was irregular.

American Telephone and Telegraph American and Foreign Power, North American, American Waterworks, Cerro de Pasco, Johns Manville, and Worthington Pump gained from 1 to 2 points, and Missouri Pacific was up 3, but Atchison Topeka, New York Central, New York Newhaven and Hartford, and Southern Railway lost from 2 to 4 points.

Government Bonds firm. Railroad Bonds steady. The day's sales totalled 1,024,000 shares. Silver unchanged at 31¼. Money on call nominal.—Reuter.

NARROW MOVEMENTS ON CURB.

SUPPORT FOR UTILITIES AND OILS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Business on to-day's market was quiet. Some profit-taking developed, but movements in leading issues were small. Among Utilities United Light "A" rose fractionally, while Electric Bond and Share and American Gas eased slightly. Industrials generally were firm, Aluminium of America, Deere Co., and Driver Harris advancing from 1 to 3 points.

Oils were mostly supported, Standard of Indiana and Vacuum being prominent, but Standards of Kentucky and Ohio ruled easy. Among Investment issues Goldman Sachs and United Founders eased fractionally.

Eng. Equiv	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.
16¼	Associated Gas and Electric A.	15¾	15¾
22⅛	Brazilian Traction Light & Power	21½	21⅞
16¼	Cities Service	15¾	15¾
3⅛	Creole Oil	3⅛	3
43⅝	Electric Bond and Share	42[illegible]	42⅝
9⅜	Electric Shareholding 6 p.c. Pref.	9½	67
24⅛	Ford (Canada) voting "A"	21	21⅛
16⅞	Imperial Oil of Canada	16⅛	16⅛
13⅛	International Petroleum	12¾	13½
18	Middle West Utilities	17½	17¼
44⅝	Newmont Mining	43	43
9⅝	Niagara Hudson Power Corporation	9⅛	9⅛
6⅜	Penn Road Corporation	6⅜	6¼
4⅜	Silica Gel. Corporation	4⅜	4⅜
36⅜	Standard Oil of Indiana	35⅛	35
	FOREIGN SECURITIES.		
4⅞	Associated Electrical Industries	4¾	4⅞
1⅜	Bwana M'Kubwa	1¼	1½
14⅜	Ford (of England) £1 shares (fy. p.)	13¾	13⅝
10⅝	General Elect. Ord.*	10⅝	10⅝
23⅜	Hydro-Electric	22¼	22⅜
2⅜	Marconi Canada b	2⅛	2⅛
8⅛	Marconi Marine Ord.*	8⅛	8⅛
13¾	Roan Antelope a	10⅞	13¼

* American Deposit Receipt.
a Receipt represents four English shares.
b Warrants for Shares Sold.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Wheat.—Spots Manitoba easy 1⅛c. down, No. 2 Red Winter steady ½c. up. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 68; No. 2 Red Winter, 98½.

Rye.—Easy, 1⅛c. down. No. 2 spot, 46⅞c.

Lard firm, 25 points up. Prime Western Steam, 11.25; Middle West, 11.10 to 11.20.

Coffee closed barely steady with Rio contracts 5 points down to unchanged, and Santos grades 13 points lower to unchanged. Spots unaltered. Rio No. 7 7⅛, Santos No. 4 10⅝. Futures basis Rio No. 7, Dec. 6.75, Jan. 6.12, March 5.86, May 5.69, July 5.56, Sept. 5.46, Oct. 5.46. Futures basis Santos No. 4, Dec. 9.45, Jan. 9.25, March 9.04, May 8.80, July 8.69, Sept. 8.58.

Cocoa, 6⅝. Futures easy 5 to 10 points lower. Dec. 6.07, Jan. 6.10, March 6.25, May 6.45, July 6.55, Sept. 6.70.

Sugar closed easy with futures down 2 to 4 points. Spot steady and unchanged. 96 Test Centrifugal Cuban Local Spot 3.25. Options, Dec. 1.12, Jan. 1.15, March 1.25, May 1.32, July 1.40, Sept. 1.48, Oct. 1.51, Dec. (1931) 1.56.—Reuter.

Petroleum steady. Standard White nominal. Mid-Continent crude, 33 to 33.9 per cent. Baume at well, 85 cents; Pennsylvania crude, 1.45 to 1.85.

CHICAGO, Saturday.

Wheat opened steady with old contracts ⅛c. down to unchanged, while new deliveries were unaltered to 1⅛c. lower. The close was easy, old contracts being ⅛c. down to unchanged and new deliveries unaltered to 1c. lower. Dec. 76⅝ to 76⅝, March 79⅛ to 79¼, May 81⅞ to 81. New contracts: Dec. 76⅝, March 79⅛ to 79⅝, May 81½ to 81⅝, July 67⅛ to 67¼.—Reuter.

WINNIPEG WHEAT.

WINNIPEG, Saturday.

Wheat at the opening was barely steady and ⅛c. to ⅝c. lower. A bearish official Argentine report, estimating the crop at 271,000,000 bushels, and the export surplus, including the carry-over, at 200,000,000 bushels created uneasiness early. The market continued to weaken under the influence of Liverpool advices of keen competition of Canadian, Argentine, Australian, and Russian wheats, coupled with the weak closing of Liverpool and liberal receipts at Winnipeg. The close was easy, with prices 1⅜c. down all round. December, 53⅝; May, 56; July, 57⅛.—Reuter.

NEW YORK METALS.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

The following quotations are supplied by Messrs. C. S. Trench and Co.

Copper steady. Lake spot, delivered consuming points in Middle West, 10.05 asked. Electrolytic, spot delivered Connecticut Valley, 10.00 asked. F.a.s. New York prompt delivery, 10.00 asked. F.a.s. New York, 30-90 days, 10.00 asked. Casting, f.o.b. New York Refinery, 9.75 asked.

Straits Tin.—Firm spot 30 and January 48 points up. Spot and nearby New York, 25.00; future option January, 25.05.

Lead.—Steady and unchanged. Spot, New York, 5.10; spot, East St. Louis, 4.95.

Zinc.—Steady and unaltered. Spot, East St. Louis, 4.05.

Pig Iron.—Steady. Northern No. 2 Plain f.o.b. furnace Eastern Pennsylvania, 17.88; No. 2 Plain Buffalo, delivery Boston, 20.66.

Copper.—The U.S. Copper Export Association quotes copper c.i.f. Hamburg, 10.30.—Reuter.

REPORTS AND NOTICES.

ASSOCIATED LONDON FLOUR MILLERS.—Interim dividend of [illegible] per cent. and [illegible] per cent. actual (less tax) on 5 per cent. and 7½ per cent. Preference shares respectively, payable forthwith, these, in effect, being equivalent to cumulative dividends for the 2½ years to September 30, 1930, on the Preference shares of certain subsidiary milling companies recently acquired by the company in exchange for Prior Preference shares.

CARRONGROVE PAPER.—Gross profit for year ended October 31, £47,[illegible] (against £[illegible]) plus balance brought forward, £7,[illegible]. Depreciation takes £20,000; debenture interest £16,194; directors' fees, £[illegible]; income tax £11,011; leaving available £[illegible], which directors propose to carry forward, no dividend being recommended on Preference capital. Mr. Condie Sandeman, K.C., has resigned from the board, and [illegible] Howard of Glossop have been appointed directors.

CALDWELL'S PAPER MILL.—Profit for year to November 30, after providing for depreciation £25,000, interest £7,388, income-tax £7,[illegible], and directors' fees and expenses £1,867, was £37,[illegible] (against £40,961), plus £42,721 brought in, making £79,832. Dividend on 1st and 2nd preference shares absorbed £[illegible], leaving to be carried forward £46,851. Mr. W. M. Wallace has resigned from the board, and Mr. W. C. Thorne and Lord Howard of Glossop have joined the board. Notice has been given to the company of the intention to propose at the annual meeting the election of Mr. Chas. Snelling as a director in place of Mr. William Harrison.

COTTON STEADY.

LITTLE CHANGE IN PRICES ANTICIPATED.

EXCLUSIVE CABLE TO THE "SUNDAY TIMES."

NEW YORK, Saturday.

It has been the quietest trading for some time after a week of active readjustment following the sharp break of several days ago. The action of the market both yesterday and to-day reflected such an extensive reduction in the outstanding interest and an evening up of accounts that most traders are inclined to anticipate little price change in the near future.

A house doing co-operative associations business, after buying a large block of October on the decline on Monday, has been re-selling in the past two days and buying July on recessions.

There was very little "hedge" selling, and with a better tone both in Bond and Stock Markets less selling pressure was evident.

The census report showed a total of 13,259,000 bales ginned to December 12, as compared with 13,456,000 bales last year. The figures were about as anticipated, and interest centred more on demand and the progress of world trade than on production.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Cotton opened steady and 2 points down to 5 up. The market was inactive. Contracts were not plentiful and the undertone was steady. Southern selling was small and new business light, while the ginning figures were about as expected. Later week-end covering took place, and the market closed steady with old contracts 11 to 8 and new deliveries 12 to 8 points higher. Spot steady at 10 points rise.

At New Orleans futures opened 4 points up to 1 down and closed 11 to 6 points higher. Spot gained 10 points.

Highest and lowest prices in the last 30 seconds of trading at New York: December, 9.75-9.74; January, 9.70-9.68. New Contracts: December, 9.70-9.70; January, 9.75-9.75; February, 9.88-9.88; March, 10.03-10.02; April, 10.15-10.15; May, 10.30-10.29; June, 10.40-10.40; July, 10.53-10.51; August, 10.60-10.60; September, 10.60-10.60; October, 10.69-10.67. Spot Middling at New York, 9.85.

Highest and lowest prices in the last minute of trading at New Orleans: December, 9.74-9.72; January, 9.79-9.79. Spot Middling at New Orleans, 9.54.—Reuter.

LIVERPOOL, Saturday.

American Futures opened about 2 points higher. Orders at the outset were evenly balanced and prices ruled steady. Afterwards trade calling was in evidence and values hardened. Towards the close week-end liquidation developed. The close was quiet and unchanged to 4 points up.

Egyptian contracts steady. Sakellaridis was 2 points higher and Upper showed an advance of 8 to 7 points.

American Futures.—Dec., 5.13; Jan., 5.13; Feb., 5.17; March, 5.23; April, 5.28; May, 5.34; June 5.39; July, 5.45; Aug., 5.49; Sept., 5.53; Oct., 5.58; Nov., 5.62; Dec., 5.67; Jan. (1932), 5.70. Egyptian (Sakellaridis).—Dec., 7.29; Jan., 7.29; March, 7.43; May, 7.62; July, 7.81; Sept., 7.96; Nov., 8.46. Upper.—Dec., 5.86; Jan., 5.87; March, 6.01; May, 6.15; July, 6.29; Sept., 6.41; Nov., 6.53.

Spot Quotations.—American Middling, 5.31; Brazilian Pernam Maceio, etc., fair, 5.46; Egyptian Sakellaridis, F.G.F., 7.85; East Indian M.G. Broach good, F.G. 3.85, fine 4.05; Tinnevelly F.G.F. 4.80, good 5.00; Oomra good 3.30, F.G. 3.30, fine 3.70; Bengal good 3.05, F.G. 3.20, fine 3.35.—Reuter.

PARIS BOURSE DULL.

PARIS, December 20.

Some repurchases on the Bourse to-day caused some improvement in certain departments, but on the whole business remained poor. On the Parquet Rentes and most local securities presented a steady appearance. Among Internationals, Rio Tinto were 15 francs higher at 3.480, Suez Canal shares at first rose to 16.800, but later reacted and closed 75 francs lower on the day at 16.675.

On the Coulisse diamond shares ruled steady, while gold mining shares showed scarcely any change. Rubber shares were featureless, but oil shares generally moved against holders.—Reuter.

"SUNDAY TIMES" NEW YORK CLOSING PRICES

RAILROADS.

Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.
181⅛	Atchison	176	180¼	68⅞	Illinois Central	67	69	52	Northern Pacific	50½	48¾
105	Atlantic C. L.	102	107	11⅛	Int. R. C. Am.	11½	11½	57⅝	Pennsylvania	57¾	56½
71⅛	Baltimore & O.	69½	70¼	36	Kans. City S.	35	35	81⅛	Reading	79¾	80¾
40	Can. Pac. (New)	38⅞	39⅞	89⅛	Louisvl. & Nash.	87	89	48⅝	St. Louis S. Fran.	46	48½
40⅞	Ches. & Ohio	39⅛	40⅝	½	Mex. Nat. 1st Pf.	½a	½a	25⅞	St. Louis S.W.	24½	25⅜
6⅛	Chic. G. West	6½	6	⅜	Do. 2nd Pref.	⅜b	⅜b	[illegible]	Sea. Air Line	[illegible]	[illegible]
20⅛	Do. Prfd.	19⅝	19¼	19⅛	Missri. K. & Tex.	19	19½	96¼	Southern Pacific	95¼	95
6⅛	Chic. Mil. St. P.	6½	6¾	70	Do. Pref.	68	68	58⅞	Southern Rly.	55½	57
10⅛	Do. Pref.	9⅝	10⅛	31½	Missouri Pacific	30¼	33	181⅛	Union Pacific	177¼	179
54⅜	Chic. Rock Is.	53	53¾	90⅛	Do. Pref.	87½	88	17½	Wabash New	17	17
27⅛	Erie	27½	27⅛	119⅝	N.Y. Central	118⅝	119	45⅛	Do. Pref. A.	44	43½
36⅛	Do. 1st Pf.	35¼	34¼	78½	New Haven	76¼	77¼				
61⅛	Gt. Nthn. Pf.	60	59	—	Norfolk & West	—	197	34⅛d.	Silver	31⅛	31⅛

a Bid, 1½ asked. b Bid, ½ asked. c Bid, 1½ asked. d Bid, ½ asked. g Asked.

INDUSTRIALS.

Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.
102⅛	Air Reduction	100	101	[illegible]	Eastman Kodak	151¼	[illegible]	[illegible]	Natl. Dairy	[illegible]	[illegible]
193½	Allied C. and Dye	188	188	52	Elec. Stor. Bat.	50½	50	[illegible]	National Lead	115	116
115⅛	Am. Can	112½	115⅜	[illegible]	Fox Film "A"	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Otis Elevator	[illegible]	[illegible]
24⅛	Am. Loco.	23⅞	23⅞	[illegible]	Gen. Electric	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Packard Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]
17	Am. Radiator	16½	17	[illegible]	Gen. Foods Cor.	[illegible]	[illegible]	40	Paramount Publix	[illegible]	39
31⅛	Am. Rolling Mills	31	31⅞	[illegible]	Gen. Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Pullman Co.	[illegible]	[illegible]
43	Am. Smelt. & R.	41¾	41⅞	[illegible]	Gillette Razor	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Remington Typ.	17	[illegible]
45⅛	Am. Sugar Ref.	44½	45	[illegible]	Goodrich B. F.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Republic I. & S.	[illegible]	[illegible]
107⅛	Am. Tobac. "B"	104	105½	[illegible]	Hudson Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Reynold Tob. B.	[illegible]	[illegible]
27⅛	Anaconda	26⅞	26⅞	[illegible]	Ingersoll Rand	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sears Roeb.	[illegible]	[illegible]
36	Atlantic Gulf	34	35⅞	[illegible]	Int. Harvester	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Stan. Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
23⅛	Baldwin Loco.	23	23⅝	[illegible]	Int. Match Pref.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Studebaker Co.	[illegible]	[illegible]
54⅛	Bethlehem Steel	53	53	[illegible]	Intern. Nickel	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Tex. Gl. Sul.	[illegible]	[illegible]
10⅛	Celanese of Am.	10½	10⅛	[illegible]	Intern. Paper "A"	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Union Carbide	[illegible]	[illegible]
25⅛	Cerro de Pasco	24½	25⅛	[illegible]	Kennecott Cop.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	United Aircraft	[illegible]	[illegible]
22⅝	Chile Copper	22	20	[illegible]	Kreuger & Toll	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	United Fruit	[illegible]	[illegible]
17⅛	Chrysler Motor	16⅞	16⅞	[illegible]	Lehman Corp.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	U.S. In. Alcohol	[illegible]	[illegible]
8⅝	Columbia Graph.	8⅝	8⅛	[illegible]	Liggett Myers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	U.S. Rubber	[illegible]	[illegible]
49⅛	Contl. Can	48⅞	48⅞	[illegible]	Loew's Incor.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	U.S. Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
73⅝	Corn Prod. Rf.	71½	72	[illegible]	Mack Trucks	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Do. Pref.	[illegible]	[illegible]
57⅞	Crucible Steel	56	57	[illegible]	Montg. Ward	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Utah Copper	[illegible]	[illegible]
13⅜	Davison Chem.	13	13	[illegible]	Nash Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
64⅛	Drug Incorptd.	63⅞	63¾	[illegible]	Natl. Biscuit	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Westinghouse	[illegible]	[illegible]
90⅛	Du Pont Nms.	87⅞	87⅞	[illegible]	Natl. Cash Reg.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Woolworth	[illegible]	[illegible]

g Asked.

PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.
32⅛	Am. & For. Power	31½	30½	[illegible]	Elec. P. and L.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Radio Corpn.	[illegible]	[illegible]
183½	Am. Tel. and Tlg.	178½	177½	[illegible]	Int. Rapid Tran.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Standard Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
36	Columbia Gas	35	35⅞	[illegible]	Int. Tel. Telg.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	United Corp.	[illegible]	[illegible]
8¼	Comwlth. Sthn.	8	8	[illegible]	North Am. Co.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	United Gas Imp.	[illegible]	[illegible]
				[illegible]	Pub. Serv. N.J.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	W. Union Tlg.	[illegible]	[illegible]

OILS.

Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Closing bid. Fri.
18⅛	Atlantic Refin.	18¼	18⅝	[illegible]	Shell	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Standard N.J.	[illegible]	[illegible]
33⅛	Pan Amer. B	33	33½	[illegible]	Shell Union	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Do. N.Y.	[illegible]	[illegible]
7⅛	Petroleum Corp.	7½	7	[illegible]	Sinclair	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Texas Corpn.	[illegible]	[illegible]
39⅝	Royal Dutch	39½	39⅝	[illegible]	Stand. California	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

g Asked.

[Quotations from the "Sunday Times" New York Correspondent and Reuter's Agency.]

LAUTARO NITRATE

DIVIDEND DECISION POSTPONED.

The Lautaro Nitrate Company announces that in view of the fact that the negotiations in New York for the financing of the new Compania de Salitre de Chile (Cosach) have only begun, and that the result of these negotiations will have far-reaching effects on the future policy of the company, it has been decided to defer the question of declaration of dividend until the results of these negotiations are more definitely known, when the question will be again considered and a full statement made to shareholders.

The situation of the Lautaro Nitrate Company, it is stated, is sound, and the board has no fear in regard to the future. The heavy nitrate stocks have caused a difficult cash situation, which is being remedied by restriction of production.

McNAMARA'S SCHEME.

CAPITAL TO BE REDUCED BY HALF.

The directors of McNamara and Co. (1921), transport contractors, have now issued details of the capital reduction plan forecast some weeks ago. They have decided to reduce the assets by approximately £125,000, and will meet this by writing down the issued capital by 10s. a share. This, they state, will result in every share being represented by tangible assets based on conservative figures. They further propose to re-create the capital written off and to retain it as capital authorised but not issued.

The net result will be to reduce the issued capital now in shares of £1 each to 249,950 shares of 10s. each, and to leave unissued 270,050 shares of 10s. each, out of a total nominal capital of 520,000 shares of 10s. each. The reduction will come into force as soon as possible in 1931, and it is then proposed to alter the financial year to the end of December.

The accounts for the year to June 30 show a loss of £6,986, which follows one of £257 for 1928-29. This year's loss has been occasioned through the termination of the agreement with the railway companies in connection with Manchester traffic, and through the difficulties in connection with the long-distance section of the business. Since the date of the last meeting the company has secured the Inner London Parcels Contract for the Postmaster-General, but, as this contract was commenced on June 28, 1930, it only affected the working for the year under review to the extent of three days.

Deducting the loss from the balance brought in of £8,398 leaves £1,411, which the directors recommend be carried forward.

On November 12 the company received official intimation from the Postmaster-General that its tender for the renewal of the Letter Mail contract had been accepted, such renewal covering the conveyance of the letter mails until July 31, 1937. The business is being carried on at a profit during the current half-year.

TAYLORS DRUG.

SMALLER PROFITS EARNED IN PAST YEAR.

Taylors Drug Co., which operates retail shops in the North of England, and is controlled by Taylors (Cash Chemists) Trust, reports a profit of £[illegible] for the year to October 4, as compared with £[illegible] per annum earned in the preceding period.

Adding £[illegible] brought in gives £[illegible]. Taxation absorbs £[illegible], and after meeting the dividends on the 6 per cent. and 7 per cent. Preference shares, the directors propose a final dividend on the Ordinary of 5 per cent., making 11 per cent. free of tax, as against 12½ per cent. for the preceding 15 months, leaving to be carried forward £[illegible].

LOW TEMPERATURE CARBONISATION.

FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PROCESS.

Trading profit of Low Temperature Carbonisation for the year ended October 31 totalled £[illegible]. Including interest and dividends received, and after meeting all charges, depreciation, and interest on the 8 per Cent. Debenture stock, a debit balance of £[illegible] has been transferred to balance-sheet.

The Coalite works erected for the South Metropolitan Gas Company at East Greenwich is now practically complete, the first battery has been heated up and production will commence early in January. The plants at Barugh and Askern are working full time, the whole of the [illegible] retorts being operated to maximum capacity.

The quality of Coalite, it is stated, has been still further improved as a result of the introduction of a number of minor refinements in the process, and it is in unprecedented demand.

The better utilisation of the crude coal oils effected by converting same into petrol and fuel oil should also result in a considerable increase in the profits, and the board look to the future with every confidence.

To-day's Broadcasting Programme will be found on page 4, column 6.

DIVIDENDS AND COUPONS.

THE JOHANNESBURG CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, GROUP.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DIVIDENDS have been declared payable to all shareholders registered in the books of the undermentioned Companies at 31st December, 1930.

The TRANSFER BOOKS will be CLOSED in each case from 1st January to 10th January, 1931, both days inclusive.

Dividend Warrants despatched from the London Office to persons resident in Great Britain and Northern Ireland will be subject to a deduction of British Income-tax at a rate to be arrived at after allowing for relief in respect of Dominion Taxes.

Holders of Share Warrants to Bearer will receive payment at the London Office on presentation of the respective Coupons, detailed below.

Coupons must be deposited four clear days for examination, and unless accompanied by Inland Revenue Declarations they will be subject to a deduction of British Income-tax as above.

Name of Company. (All of which are Incorporated in the Union of South Africa.)	Dividend No.	Coupon No.	Rate of Dividend. Per cent.	Rate of Dividend. Per share.	Date of Payment.
Government Gold Mining Areas (Modderfontein) Consolidated, Ltd.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Langlaagte Estate and Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
New State Areas, Ltd.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Van Ryn Deep, Ltd.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Witwatersrand Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

By Order,
Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Ltd., London Agents.
T. HONEY, Secretary.
10-11, Austin Friars, London, E.C.2.
17th December, 1930.

TELL
them about your goods
and they will buy
SELL
more cheaply
by Advertising more
Consult
GORDON & GOTCH LTD
[illegible]
GORDON HOUSE, E.C.4
[illegible]

RHODESIAN CONGO BORDER CONCESSION.

KEEPING CONTROL IN BRITISH HANDS.

RICHNESS OF THE FIELD.

MONEY SECURED FOR DEVELOPMENT.

AMALGAMATION APPROVED.

The eighth annual general meeting of the Rhodesian Congo Border Concession, Ltd., was held on Wednesday at Winchester House, London, E.C., Mr. Francis L. Gibbs (chairman of the company) presiding.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, the retiring directors were re-elected, and the auditors were re-appointed.

Sir Auckland C. Geddes then moved the special resolutions in connection with the draft agreement with the Bwana M'Kubwa Copper Mining Co., Ltd., and in the course of his speech, said:—

Let me begin by recalling those days about two years ago when a strenuous effort was necessary to prevent the N'Changa mine and the very rich deposits since discovered in our ground just outside the N'Changa Concession from passing into the control of an American corporation. Speaking at the meeting of the Rio Tinto Company on April 14 of this year I defined my position at that earlier time in these words:—

"I am not prepared to take up an anti-American attitude in this matter, but I am prepared to take what action is possible to prevent dominance by any one national interest in an industry which must serve a world need"; and then a little later in that speech I said: "And now I believe no one nation can dominate the Rhodesian field, but that its development is in the hands of companies representing, through their shareholding, practically all the world, American as well as European. This I am satisfied is the best arrangement possible." So much for April 14, 1930.

I had hardly finished speaking when the price of copper broke. As time went on the effects of this collapse began to accumulate and I became anxious about the future control of this company. There was a great deal of exaggerated talk about copper being in superabundant supply and about the certainty of low prices for the metal for many years, and quite a number of people quite naturally took up the attitude, "Well, we have a good profit on our R.C.B.C. holdings. Let us realise it," and quite a number did, and many of their shares passed into American hands, although many also passed into ours, for we have been steadily increasing our holding, and propose still further to increase it, provided this consolidation goes through.

FINANCIAL DISCUSSIONS.

A little later, in May-June of this year, to be precise, I raised in the Technical Committee the question of our coming financial needs, because I foresaw some difficulty in finding the money required to finance Rhodesian copper developments, as a whole, in sufficient volume in London to maintain British interest in the proportion which was established at the time when we prevented the control of N'Changa and a large slice of our most valuable territory from passing into non-British hands. Indeed, London has already failed to maintain its proportion, for the two large American holdings, and several smaller ones which are opposed to the proposals before us to-day, were built up to their present proportions after the struggle of two years ago. I have reason to believe, in fact I know, that other and quite different American interests hoped, perhaps would still hope if these resolutions could be defeated, to obtain large blocks of shares in this company. I believe I am betraying no confidence when I tell you that when I was in New York I heard the view expressed that some of the British holders were too weak to support their share of the further finance required, that they would have to diminish their proportionate holding, and that American interests would buy.

Please do not misunderstand me. I am far from taking up any anti-American attitude; on the contrary, I am in favour of American participation in these great enterprises, as I am of French and Dutch and German and any other national participation, but I do not think anyone, least of all the wiser and more far-sighted Americans, wants to see the whole Northern Rhodesian copper-fields in the hands of the American copper companies. And so I ask you to remember that at the back of all the proposals which I bring before you to-day is a very real problem, namely, that of financing the development of the Northern Rhodesian copper-field—a vast undertaking.

WORLD COPPER POSITION.

As the world economic position worsened, my belief in the wisdom of achieving the largest possible consolidation of the Northern Rhodesian copper mines strengthened, and I set out in some private notes, written to clarify my own thought, ten reasons which I subsequently used at a meeting of your board as the basis of my recommendations in favour of the course proposed to you to-day:

1. That copper is in danger of under-consumption, which will be called over-production for a time to be measured in years.

2. That the best way of meeting such a situation in relation to the copper world as it exists to-day is for the coming production of Rhodesia to be in as few and as strong hands as possible.

3. That the best chance of securing a proper share of the world's supply of copper for the Rhodesian mines is for them to be equipped to meet something more than their probable share of the supply, and for that equipment to be under the control of organisations self-contained and assured of adequate financial resources.

4. That large units would be advantageous in dealing with the Northern Rhodesian Government as well as conceivably with the British Government.

5. That the Chartered Company wields great power in Rhodesia, and that it will be immeasurably advantageous to be in a position of partner with, rather than tenant of, the Chartered Company. This would in effect be the position under the consolidation before us to-day as a result of the Chartered Company's very large shareholding in the Rhodesian Anglo-American, Ltd., the largest single holder of R.C.B.C. shares.

BENEFITS OF CONSOLIDATION.

6. That consolidation would make it possible, if such a course were considered advisable or were forced on the company by world conditions, to secure any given reasonable profit per existing share of R.C.B.C. and Bwana M'Kubwa in combination with a smaller capital outlay than would be required to secure the same profit for the existing shares of R.C.B.C. and Bwana M'Kubwa if the companies remain separate. As the two companies must draw fresh capital from the same general sources this has advantages for both. Further, this may legitimately be regarded as a saving of capital expenditure from the shareholder's viewpoint as well as from the point of view of copper production, though to a much greater extent in the case of the former than in that of the latter, the ratio being in this respect of the order of 3 : 1.

7. Consolidation would save expense throughout the life of the mines.

8. Consolidation will not damage any of the company's powers to produce cheaply or diminish their ore reserves, and it will have little if any detrimental effect in the case of R.C.B.C. upon the actual proportion of the equity in R.C.B.C. adhering to any one existing share.

9. The present organisation of the R.C.B.C. Company is clumsy and cumbersome. Under consolidation it should be not only possible but relatively easy to secure simplification and much greater efficiency of management.

10. The Consolidated Company will assure the powerful financial backing of Messrs. Rothschilds and Messrs. Morgans as bankers. This alone appears to me to have great value in connection with the need of financing new mines in the present position of world markets. I return to this at length later.

These were and are my views expressed hardly for my own mental clarification, but I should like to read to you Sir Ernest Oppenheimer's views on the same subject. He wrote these for my information in August of this year.

"I have been considering the possible future of the Bwana, R.C.B.C., and N'Changa companies, and I have very definitely formed the opinion that it would be of the greatest benefit to these companies, and hardly less so to the Northern Rhodesian copper industry as a whole and the country itself, if an operating company"—this suggestion has not been proceeded with for reasons which seem to be conclusive—"could be formed which could acquire the undertakings of the three companies mentioned.

AVERTING COMPETITION.

"Among the many reasons which have led me to this opinion, the following appeal to me particularly:

"1. The establishment of such a company would ensure collaboration and avoid competition with regard to production.

"2. The formation of one large company would greatly strengthen the position vis-a-vis legislation and the Government authorities generally.

"3. For purposes of finance. This is certainly as important as either of the previous reasons."

N'CHANGA POSITION.

This completes what I have to say on the general policy of consolidation. There remain certain special considerations in so far as the property of the N'Changa Copper Mines Limited is concerned. It seems to us, who came in later, a pity that the N'Changa Company was ever formed as a separate entity. No doubt it seemed wise at the time, but subsequent discoveries have shown that the concession area just missed a very rich ore-body—in fact it is just in the wrong place.

In my view, consolidation will pay the shareholders of R.C.B.C. both in ultimate share values and in earlier dividends, provided that the terms of the purchase and of the exchange of shares are fair.

We take over the disposable properties of the Bwana M'Kubwa Company as a going concern as at September 1; all debts accrued due at that date being paid by Bwana. We do not take over the company or any of its debts or Debentures or any liability it may have for income-tax.

We have had the N'Kana mine under continuing observation. So far as I personally am concerned, the most important fact is that it has been seen and visited not only by the managing director of the Rio Tinto Company, but by that company's technical director and also by its chief geologist.

A WELL-DISCUSSED PROPOSITION.

Remember we have lived with this thought of consolidation, tested it, examined it, studied it for fourteen months, and that outside a very small and limited circle of those whose interest is exclusively or overwhelmingly in this company, not a word was said to anyone until August of this year; since then we have been negotiating, discussing, arguing, with the result that ten of your directors are in favour of consolidation on these terms, and two are not. There is associated with the latter in this opposition at least one large shareholder, Mr. Guggenheim, whose name is well known in the American copper world, and who feels, I understand, as they do, but even more strongly. There are some smaller American shareholders who have also expressed opposition to the scheme. This one can only deplore, but I should be failing in my duty did I not tell you that seven out of the eight groups which hastily came together two years ago to save the eyes and heart of your property as well as the N'Changa Mine from passing into non-British hands are in favour of this amalgamation, and one, and only one, is against it. The seven are:—

The British South Africa Company.
The Rio Tinto Company.
Messrs. Rothschild.
The Rhodesian Anglo-American.
The Anglo-Metal Company.
Selection Trust.
Minerals Separation Ltd.

The one opposing is the Union Corporation, whose representative on the board is Sir Henry Strakosch. Apart from him, I know of only one other British shareholder opposed to this scheme either on the general question of consolidation, or on the terms to be offered to the Bwana M'Kubwa Copper Mines Ltd.

With regard to the second resolution—the offer to be made to the N'Changa shareholders—I know of no opposition having been expressed or urged anywhere. The terms seem to be quite reasonable to us, and anyhow the N'Changa shareholders can take them or leave them as they will, provided you approve of the offer being made.

With the third resolution we return to the main question: Is it wise to absorb the Bwana M'Kubwa assets from our point of view, as shareholders in R.C.B.C.? Let us see what would happen if we did not.

First, we should have either to float a company to do the mining, or get the terms of our grant from the Chartered Company changed, or, alternatively, we might sell our rich ore to N'Changa for shares in that company. That, indeed, was the first idea we explored, but in fact it is hopeless. There is no salvation that way. Let us suppose that we had got our concession altered, and that we now had to proceed to finance this company to bring our property to production.

For ourselves, by ourselves, we should need not less than £5,000,000, and it would be, say, five years before any adequate revenue could be expected. In such a case debentures would be out of the question. The money would have to be raised by the issue of a large number of new shares, with the inevitable result that existing shareholders would have to find their proportion of the new money or suffer for all time a diminution of their share of the equity.

ATTITUDE OF DIRECTORS.

As you know, your board was divided in the proportion of ten to two on the questions before us. Let me state the point of view of the minority in their own words. I have here a statement drafted by them which I shall read to you.

Sir Henry Strakosch and Mr. McConnell were against the amalgamation. They understand, however, that in spite of the objections they have raised, shareholders holding a majority of the total issued capital of your company are prepared to vote in favour of the resolution, and in these circumstances Sir Henry Strakosch and Mr. McConnell feel that no useful purpose would be served by placing before you, in full, their case against the scheme. They think it only proper, however, that I should inform you in general terms of the principal reasons for their dissent. They are against the scheme because they are of the opinion:

"(1) That the ore-body already disclosed by boring on your property is by far the richest and widest in Northern Rhodesia, and that its ultimate value is likely to be far greater than that assumed in arriving at the basis of amalgamation.

"(2) That your company has sufficient funds in hand to continue its programme of development and exploration for at least a year, and that it has no need, for its own account, to raise further funds in this time of acute financial depression, while by acquiring the Bwana assets your company will take upon itself an immediate and onerous financial commitment.

"(3) That those opposed to the amalgamation handed to your board certain technical reports, including one from an eminent firm of consulting engineers, who were responsible for bringing three of the largest copper mines in the world into production, which reports were to the effect that either amalgamation is undesirable or the terms inequitable to this company.

"(4) That the proposed method of finance is not a desirable one, involving, as it does, burdening your company with a debenture issue at a time when the shares of the company stand at a very high premium and when the company has not yet reached a profit-earning stage."

That is the end of Sir Henry Strakosch and Mr. McConnell's statement. Clearly their view is different from mine, but I do not wish you to think that your board is going to be torn by internecine strife. It was a real pleasure to me earlier in this meeting to propose the re-election of our American colleague, Mr. McConnell, to the board, and if Sir Henry Strakosch had been a candidate at this time I certainly should have asked him to allow me to propose or at least to second his election.

A QUESTION OF POLICY.

I am altogether in favour of big non-British interests participating in these great enterprises, and we welcome the representation of the big American interest for which Mr. McConnell speaks, even though on this occasion he, like Sir Henry Strakosch, does not see eye to eye with the rest of the board.

And now let me say this: My mind has never been obsessed by this question of ratio, which I have necessarily dealt with at length to-day. Provided that no glaring injustice be done to any of the three companies concerned, I am indifferent as to a difference of 5 or even 10 per cent. In my view the question is one of policy.

What we are doing to-day is to create a company, with funds secure, big enough, strong enough to bring to full production a great part of the unbelievably rich copper field of Northern Rhodesia, to enable us to build up a great refining industry in this country, and to secure for the Empire a worthy share of the copper industries of the world.

SIR HENRY STRAKOSCH'S REMARKS.

Sir Henry Strakosch, addressing the meeting, said: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,—Sir Auckland Geddes has informed you, in general terms, of the principal reasons why Mr. McConnell and I are opposed to the scheme of amalgamation which is before you. Nothing I can add would serve any useful purpose or alter the course which the proceedings of this meeting are likely to take, for I have been assured that the majority of the shareholders of your company are in favour of the scheme, and will cast their votes accordingly. If they do—and I have no reason to doubt that they will—there is nothing to stand in the way of the scheme being consummated.

I have been asked by a number of people what, in the circumstances, my further course of action will be. It is only right that I should make my position clear. Whatever I may think or feel regarding the propriety of carrying through a transaction of this magnitude in the face of the considered opinion of a substantial minority, I am quite clear in my own mind what is the right thing for me to do when this meeting has given its decision in favour of the scheme. It is to accept the verdict of this meeting ungrudgingly, and to co-operate loyally with my colleagues with a view to making the greatest possible success of the scheme.

This is the line of conduct I propose to pursue, and I should like to add, if I may, that my views of the exceptional merits of our property encourage me to think that a very prosperous future lies in front of it. I am supported in this view by a careful investigation of the available data by a firm of mining engineers of the very highest standing in copper mining. The success they have achieved in developing, equipping, and bringing to the producing stage three of the greatest copper mines of the world—involving problems not dissimilar to those with which we shall have to deal—lends exceptional weight to their opinion. Without it I should not have ventured to express a view which might lay me open to the charge of excessive optimism. The ore body which has been disclosed in our company's property west of N'Changa is unique. Its extent, its width, and its copper contents, as so far indicated, are such as to justify the belief that the exploitation of this ore body alone will ultimately make your company one of the biggest and cheapest copper producers in the world.

The resolutions were carried.

TOWN INVESTMENTS, LIMITED.

MR. A. MAITLAND KISCH ON PROPERTY.

The eighth annual general meeting of Town Investments, Ltd., was held on Monday at 47, Grosvenor Street, London, W.

Mr. A. Maitland Kisch, F.S.I. (chairman and managing director), said that the year under review had been complicated by the decision of the freeholders of the most valuable area in Mayfair to permit business user of properties hitherto restricted to residential occupation. That decision had created an exceptional opportunity, and the Board had decided to invest large sums in that area with the knowledge that no immediate revenue could be anticipated. That action was reflected in their figures and in the reduction of net profit. The greater part of that investment had now been liquidated with eminently satisfactory results.

THE YEAR'S RESULTS.

The net profit was £[illegible], compared with £[illegible] for last year. After payment of the interim Ordinary and the year's Preference dividend, there was a balance of £[illegible] available to which they proposed to add £4,000 transferred from reserve, making £[illegible], out of which they recommended a final dividend of 10 per cent. upon the increased Ordinary capital of £250,000, making 20 per cent. for the year. The proposal to withdraw £4,000 from reserves was completely justified. The net profit did not represent the income of a normal year. A supplemental balance-sheet to date would show earnings for the past fourteen months greatly in excess of their previous records.

They continued resolutely to limit their purchases to high-class property in the best positions. In common with gilt-edged securities, property in the best London positions had held its value to a greater extent than any other form of investment. It would almost appear that gold and first-class property were the only two known commodities to escape the world slump. He believed that the continued appreciation in price of Government and other stocks of the trustee type, coupled with the general disinclination to purchase equity shares, would result in still larger investments being made in the best property as an outlet for the accumulating funds of the safety-first investor.

MAYFAIR DEVELOPMENTS.

The transition of the greater part of Mayfair from a private residential to a first-class business locality proceeded apace. The most important developments were taking place in the Berkeley Square and Park Lane areas, where many of the company's properties were situated. The company had sold a great block of property, comprising most of the east side of Berkeley Square and the south side of Bruton Street to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, who would proceed to erect the finest hotel in Europe with shops under the site.

Correct prophecy was always difficult, but operating as they would do in the heart of the West End of London with their goodwill and the increased cash resources which they now had at their disposal, they should naturally obtain investment opportunities denied to the majority.

The report was unanimously adopted, and the retiring directors, Mr. Thomas S. L. Wootton, F.S.I., and Sir Lionel Halsey, G.C.M.G., were re-elected.

BWANA M'KUBWA COPPER MINING CO.

AMALGAMATION SCHEME APPROVED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Bwana M'Kubwa Copper Mining Company, Ltd., was held on Wednesday at the Cannon Street Hotel, E.C., to consider a resolution approving an agreement with the Rhodesian Congo Border Concession, Ltd.

Sir Edmund Davis (chairman and managing director) said, in the course of his speech: This meeting has been called to consider our recommendation to enter into an agreement with the Rhodesian Congo Border Concession, Ltd., in terms of the draft which is being submitted. The policy of bringing under one control our properties, those of the Rhodesian Congo Border Concession, Ltd., and those of the N'Changa Copper Mines, Ltd., has been under consideration for some time past, and after lengthy negotiations your directors have unanimously come to the conclusion that we should recommend your acceptance of the scheme.

If the suggested amalgamation is approved of by the shareholders of the companies, I think we may take it for granted that there will be dealt with in the N'Kana plant between 5,000 and 7,000 tons of N'Kana ore per day and about 2,000 tons of richer ore from the Rhodesian Congo Border Concession and/or the N'Changa properties. The production from this tonnage should be sufficient in the early days of the amalgamated venture to give very satisfactory profits with a normal copper market.

So far as copper production is concerned, there can be no doubt that there should be ample room in the world's market for the Northern Rhodesian supplies, provided the position is handled with care, and by amalgamating the three companies we are satisfied that we are going a long way towards protecting the position. As the other Northern Rhodesian copper mines are under the control of the Selection Trust group, there will in future be only two groups to be considered in the production, and there should be no difficulty in arriving at an arrangement for all practical purposes, so that production should not outrun consumption.

A DOMINATING POSITION.

Of course, it would have been better to have amalgamated the whole of the known Northern Rhodesian copper undertakings, but at the moment it is impossible even to give consideration to the idea. This being so, we must do all we can to place the combined three properties into a dominating position, and make it one of the most important copper mining propositions within the Empire, and one of the greatest copper producers in the world. In such a position the company would carry great weight in any negotiations on the subject of production.

Under the scheme we are submitting, after the issue of 550,000 shares in the Rhodesian Congo Border Concession to us, and any shares which may be issued in exchange for the N'Changa Copper Company shares, the Rhodesian Congo Border Concession, Ltd., will create £6,000,000 of 7 per cent. Debentures, of which £4,500,000 will be issued. These will be redeemable at any time before 1940 at a premium of 20 per cent., or at any time thereafter at par, or by purchase in the market. They will carry certain conversion rights, which are set out in the circular. The issue will be underwritten by the Rhodesian Anglo-American, Ltd., and Messrs. J. C. im Thurn and Sons, Ltd., at a commission of 3 per cent.

When this issue is made we shall be entitled, as the holders of 550,000 Rhodesian Congo Border Concession shares, to apply for about £1,735,000 Debentures; the exact amount cannot be settled until the number of N'Changa shares exchanged has been ascertained. We will then arrange for the shareholders in this company to be given an opportunity to subscribe on the same terms as the issue will be made to all, in proportion to their respective holdings in the Bwana company.

The resolution was carried.

LONDON AND RHODESIAN MINING AND LAND.

COMPANY'S INTERESTS REVIEWED.

The ordinary general meeting of the London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Co., Ltd., was held on Monday at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C.

Mr. Leonard E. B. Homan (the chairman), having dealt with the accounts, said that the balance would have justified a small dividend on the present issued capital, but, after careful consideration, the directors did not recommend any distribution. It was considered that in these times it was in the interests of all shareholders that the company's resources should be conserved.

Remarking that the company's holding in Cam and Motor shares remained practically intact, the chairman said he made it clear at the recent meeting of that company that the ore reserves were sufficient to keep the mine going for at least three years, and that distributions would continue for that period. The position of this, their largest interest, had to be taken by the board into account when considering the payment of a dividend in respect of the past year.

COLONIAL TOBACCO.

The Dominion Tobacco Company had made steady progress since the reorganisation, which had resulted in this interest becoming a valuable one. Great economies had been effected, and the sales organisation had been strengthened. The progress made indicated that there was every possibility of their interest in that company becoming a source of revenue at no far distant date.

With regard to the tobacco growing industry itself, he was glad to say that there were signs of a revival. The consumption of Colonial tobacco in Great Britain had shown a steady increase for some years past. In 1925 only 9.8 per cent. of the tobacco cleared through the Customs came from that source, whereas in 1929 17.1 per cent. was grown within the Empire.

The company's holding of 1,655,000 acres of land in Southern Rhodesia must be looked upon as a very fine asset, and he ventured to state that the price at which it appeared in the balance-sheet was conservative. The position of the cattle industry in Southern Rhodesia was more encouraging than for some years past. Their agricultural developments, though not large, were well organised and fully equipped.

N. RHODESIAN MINERALS CONCESSION.

The chairman next referred to the Northern Rhodesia Minerals Concession, and said that, acting on the wishes expressed at the last meeting, the directors co-opted Mr. Spiller and Mr. Rowe to the board, and those gentlemen, together with the late Major White, were duly appointed a committee to investigate the whole matter. The result of their work was duly reported, and the closing paragraph in the report indicated the attitude and opinion of the whole board. He thought the mere fact that Mr. Spiller and Mr. Rowe were in agreement with the directors would prove to the shareholders that everything at present possible had been done in regard to the matter.

The chairman concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Harvey B. Spiller seconded the motion, which was carried after some discussion.

PANAMA CORPORATION.

HARMONY WITH AMERICA.

WORLD-WIDE IMPORTANCE OF GOLD.

PHENOMENAL VALUES.

The fourth ordinary annual general meeting of Panama Corporation, Limited, was held on Wednesday at River Plate House, London, E.C.

Mr. Duncan Elliott Alves, J.P., the chairman of the corporation, presided, and in the course of his remarks said:

The corporation's operations in Panama have been repeatedly referred to in different organs of the American Press and the local Press of Panama; it is voiced that the gravest suspicions have been engendered in certain quarters in the U.S. in connection with the company's operations in relation to the Panama Canal.

After thorough investigations locally by a special mission sent from Washington it was officially announced that they were satisfied as to the bona fides of this British enterprise and its operations in Panama.

I take this opportunity of reiterating what I have stated before, that it always has been and still is the wish of this administration to work and develop our great interests in Panama in complete harmony with our American neighbours, and I will go so far as to say that we would actually welcome their co-operation in connection with our operations in that Republic.

Turning to our operations on the fields and to the position we may assume as a gold producer. As most of those who are in a position to be the best judges, not only in this country but abroad, have by repeated announcements and arguments made clear, the question of gold has become a matter of paramount importance to the whole world, and has created a position which has not only hampered but still hampers and will continue to hamper the entire trade and prosperity of all nations.

WORLD IMPORTANCE OF GOLD.

Arising out of the whole question, whatever may be its solution, it has been made manifest that the production of gold in quantity has now assumed world importance.

I feel that I am at least justified in saying that, unless untoward circumstances arise, or unless the evidences that already exist are by some extraordinary means misinterpreted, we have at least the hope of taking a long step towards assisting in fulfilling the pressing world requirements that are so anxiously looked for.

I might refer to a matter which concerns every shareholder in this corporation personally and directly. It is well that it be understood that the directors of this company never make a practice of what is usually termed "dealing in the shares of the company." It has become a settled practice for the directors not to deal or operate in the shares of the company, beyond, of course, increasing their holdings from time to time as issues might be made.

DEVELOPMENT OF PANAMA.

It is well that it should be appreciated that, so far, no incident has occurred in connection with our operations in Panama to which the slightest objection could be taken with regard to our relationship with the Panamanian Administration. Our relationship with that Government is most harmonious. The Government of Panama have only in view one objective, and that is the opening up and development of the resources of their country, looking ultimately to the prosperity and many advantages that will accrue to the nation; in this connection they have done everything in their power to assist and support us in our strenuous endeavours to that end.

Mr. Hugh F. Marriott: I have extreme confidence that your properties in Panama contain within their boundaries the next coming goldfield of the world.

REMANCE MINE.

The upper levels were about [illegible] to the ton. Later examination of the lower levels has disclosed that the gold bearing portion of the lode was lying in mineralised country on one side or the other of the tunnels.

In one place on the fourth level from 1,850 ft. onwards the later development exposed ore over a distance of 130 ft. 36 ins. wide, assaying from a few shillings up to 388s. a ton.

At 1,882 ft. a sampling result over a further 22 ins. of lode matter in the wall assayed no less than £636 to the ton.

This section of the lode was then risen on, and a bulk sample 8 ft. above gave a result of 76s. to the ton.

A winze below this point gave over 32 ft. 63s. a ton over 53 ins. Further samples taken at 50 ft. gave 46s. over 72 ins.

RICHER AND WIDER AT DEPTH.

The whole of these results show, without the inclusion of the very rich sample, ore of double the value of that disclosed in the upper levels, and of considerably greater width for mining purposes.

Near the vertical shaft, 1,667 ft. north a total distance of 415 ft. assayed 52s. a ton over 31 ins. This included ore of 95s. a ton over 40 ins. for 115 ft.

In the northern workings on the fifth level a crosscut 300 ft. north of the shaft exposed ore of 44s. a ton over 60 ins. At 607 ft. from the shaft richer ore was encountered of the value of £22 a ton. Driving was continued in this rich ore, and has opened up to date no less than 71 ft. of distance, averaging £17 to the ton over a width of 29 ins. One sample which first gave a return of £60 a ton, on being check assayed gave £160 a ton.

PROFIT OF £7 A TON.

The estimated profit at Remance of 13s. a ton as a separate concern can easily be increased, when the mine is a component part of the workings of the whole Panama Corporation, to a profit of £7 a ton.

In the Sabalo river we have already proved, as you know, several million cubic yards of alluvial, valued at 18 cents, or 9d. a cubic yard.

The third property getting ready for early production of gold is at El Mineral, on the north side of Veraguas.

The larger proportion of the gold consists of nuggets with a small proportion of fine gold. Rich concentrations of gold will be found as extraction operations proceed.

Results are up to £10 and £20 per cubic yard, and the output as a whole may be counted on to give up to 6s. a cubic yard.

Another property that is ready for the first unit of equipment is Mina Blanca Mine in the Hatillos district.

ESTIMATED PROFITS.

I anticipate that the profit from these four properties, when operating on their full equipment, will be between £350,000 and £400,000 annually.

On the Chiriqui Line, west of Mina Blanca and Remance, we have found over forty miles at least a dozen exposures of similar outcrops.

COMPARISON WITH THE RAND.

This forty miles is practically the same as the length of the Main Reef series on the Witwatersrand.

One more fact about the Rand. The Modderfontein Mine was once sold for £150,000 taken in shares. Last year New Modderfontein paid nearly £2,000,000 in dividends in one year. I wish to give you this contrast and then to tell you that the Remance Mine to-day, moderate though its outlook may be, is a far more attractive mining proposition than was New Modderfontein Mine when I first took a hand in examining it.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

A full report of this meeting may be had on application to the Secretary, 14, Waterloo Place, London, England.

BANK OF LONDON AND SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.

A DIFFICULT YEAR.

The sixty-eighth ordinary meeting of the Bank of London and South America, Ltd., was held on December 16 at the head office, 6, 7, and 8, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.

Mr. J. W. Beaumont Pease (the chairman), in the course of his speech, said:

Turning to the profit and loss account, your directors have decided, in view of the general depression which exists all over the world and which has not failed to react upon business in South America, that a conservative and precautionary policy is eminently desirable. [illegible]

It is recommended that £[illegible] shall be placed to contingency reserve, [illegible]

SITUATION IN ARGENTINA.

Were it not for the latter promise of its final months an account of the past year in Argentina would be far from cheerful reading. The harvests, which largely form the basis of her wealth, were meagre, and the correspondingly small return from them was further diminished by the worldwide fall in the value of cereals. With the conversion office closed, the already difficult commercial situation was aggravated by falling exchange rates caused by the result of the growing adverse trade balance, which became heavier than usual. The ill-effects of this to the country are clear: firstly, the service of all foreign debts cost the country 20 per cent. more; secondly, the necessary goods imported into the country also cost 20 per cent. more, and this sends up the cost of living; and, as the lower exchange also reduces the profits of the foreign utility companies, such as railways, banks, and mortgage companies, etc., depressing their share values, so it affects the country's credit and makes future loans, etc., harder to negotiate even at a lower issue price.

It is, therefore, comforting to know that the prevailing impression in this respect is fully appreciated by those in power, who recognise that a monetary régime providing for greater elasticity and making for a permanently stable "peso" at 11.45 to the pound is greatly desirable for the good of the country and its uninterrupted progress.

CONFIDENCE IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

To the monetary inconveniences of the nation was added political trouble, resulting in the almost bloodless revolution of September 6, a sharp and unmistakable protest against the old régime. The new régime, formed of well-known and experienced men imbued with a sense of their responsibilities, and with the avowed intention of working for the good of the Republic, has been welcomed, not with mere wordy sympathy, but with practical assistance, and by full recognition of all foreign Powers, and a feeling of relief has been engendered and confidence restored. The banks, both Argentine and foreign, established in Buenos Ayres have placed at the disposal of the new Government the assistance necessary for the temporary needs of the situation, and the renewal of a fairly large foreign loan was arranged on more favourable terms than the original.

There is no hiding the fact that Argentina is passing through a period of commercial depression, a condition of affairs which is universal. However, there is no cause for undue pessimism, as with peace and economy the country should, when the tide turns, quickly recover, in view of its manifold resources.

CONDITIONS IN BRAZIL.

Probably the most important happening in Brazil during the last year has been the recent revolution, which, although it occurred since the closing of the Bank's year, has been casting its shadow over the country since the Presidential election of March last, which resulted in the naming of Dr. Julio Prestes as President-elect to take office on November 15 last.

Dissatisfaction with the fairness of this election culminated on October 3 with a simultaneous rising in the States of Rio Grande do Sul, Parana, Santa Catharina, Minas Geraes, and the North, and the fighting which took place in many parts of the great republic terminated with the success of the revolutionary party in Rio de Janeiro on October 24. The provisional Government then set up has nominated Dr. Getulio Vargas, the defeated candidate in the Presidential election of March, to hold that post. This gentleman has chosen for his Ministers well-known men of standing, ability, and confidence. Much is hoped from this Government, whose programme is both sound and economical, and most of the foreign Governments have already recognised it.

CHILE.

Chile, which is a country dependent on her exports for her upkeep, was naturally adversely affected by the world conditions ruling, but was more fortunate than some of her neighbours inasmuch as no internal dissensions disturbed her well-being.

The formation of the big company Compañia de Salitre de Chile to consolidate the entire Chilean nitrate output is making progress, and it is said that it already represents about 95 per cent of the total industry. The law creating the company became effective on July 21 last, that date being very appropriately the hundredth anniversary of the first shipment of nitrate from Chile.

URUGUAY.

Uruguay, in common with the other South American republics where we are established, has had a difficult year. [illegible]

The commercial depression in Colombia referred to last year continued throughout the year under review.

The year 1930 has been a fortunate one for Paraguay.

The report was unanimously adopted.

CRITTALL MANUFACTURING CO.

CONTINUED PROGRESS.

Presiding at the ordinary general meeting of the Crittall Manufacturing Company, on Wednesday, Sir Valentine Crittall (chairman and managing director), in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that before dealing with the business of the meeting he wished to refer to the retirement of Mr. F. H. Crittall, his father, from the position of chairman of the company. [illegible]

THE YEAR'S WORK.

Dealing with the year's work, he said [illegible]

THE SILVER END ESTATE.

[illegible]

MESSINA (TRANSVAAL) DEVELOPMENT CO.

ENCOURAGING PROGRESS.

The annual general meeting of the Messina (Transvaal) Development Co., Ltd., was held on Wednesday at the Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.

[illegible]

Reports of the following Company Meetings appear on page [illegible]:

[illegible]

COMPANY MEETINGS.

WILUNA GOLD CORPORATION, LTD.

MAGNITUDE OF THE ENTERPRISE.

CAPITAL PROPOSALS APPROVED.

The ordinary general meeting of the Wiluna Gold Corporation, Limited, was held on December 17 at River Plate House, E.C.

Mr. Frederic H. Hamilton (the chairman) said:—It is impossible not to be struck with the magnitude of this enterprise, and the regularity of the values which we have encountered. It is estimated that above the 800-foot horizon reached by the main shaft, and over the relatively limited longitudinal area of the property so far developed in the Southern Leases, some seven years' supply of ore should be available on the basis of treating approximately half a million tons annually. [illegible]

As you know, the Wiluna property extends for some two miles along the strike of the lodes, [illegible]

[illegible]

IMPORTANCE OF THE GOLD BONUS.

A factor of immense importance to this and all other Australian gold mining companies is the bonus of £1 per ounce on all gold produced in excess of the output of 1929, which has just been sanctioned by the Commonwealth Legislature.

[illegible]

In conclusion the chairman moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. John A. Agnew seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted, and a resolution to increase the capital [illegible] was also unanimously approved.

AMALGAMATED COTTON MILLS TRUST, LTD.

LOWER COSTS ESSENTIAL.

The twelfth annual general meeting of the Amalgamated Cotton Mills Trust, Ltd., was held at Yard Works, Preston, on Friday.

[illegible]

The report and accounts were adopted.

Sunday Times
SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
[illegible]

COMPANY MEETINGS.

RIVER PLATE BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL MEAT

IMPROVED TRADING RESULTS.

The fifth annual ordinary general meeting of the River Plate British and Continental Meat Company, Ltd., was held on December 19 at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C., Mr. H. S. Myers (chairman of the company) presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. W. H. Bryant) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: Ladies and gentlemen,—I take it that it is your wish that the report and accounts, which have been circulated, be taken as read. (Agreed.)

[illegible]

BALANCE-SHEET ASSETS.

[illegible]

TRADING PROFIT.

[illegible]

AN IMPROVEMENT.

[illegible]

"AS FAIR A SHOWING AS POSSIBLE."

[illegible]

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

THE DRAMATIC WORLD.

MR. WALLACE AGAIN.

By JAMES AGATE.

Wyndham's. Tuesday, December 16.

"SMOKY CELL."

A Play. By Edgar Wallace.

"Smoky Cell" fulfils the first canon of playwriting in that it is true to the visual and audible surfaces of life. No genuine American thug could look nattier or talk more vividly than the principal character is made to do in this play. The third canon, that old business about enriching the mind, Mr. Wallace does not attempt here. The second canon is the difficulty, for this demands that the author should use his medium in the best possible way. Mr. Wallace was always good at knowing what a scene should look like, and the present piece provides two capital examples. One is the scene in which we watch the Chief Thug, caged like a rat behind the bars of the condemned cell, pour out his rat-like soul into the ears of a warder who says no word. Has this listener understanding, pity, bowels? We do not know. He chews and watches—the graven image of human vengeance. Mr. Grosvenor North's silent acting here was, perhaps, the most impressive thing in the play. The second example was the later scene, in which the Police Chief disposed himself in his apartment to receive thugs. Here no word at all was spoken, and both instances showed that our author has lost none of his power of writing plays for the eye.

A Technical Matter.

At other times there were indications that Mr. Wallace had not yet quite run into his old form; since the master at his best would never have given us that over-long first act, with its excess of unnecessary explanation. We know roughly what gangsters are up to, and it should not have taken forty-five minutes to postulate that rich New Yorkers may be called upon to purchase their lives by paying protection money, and that some New York police chiefs are honest. One of the oldest tricks known to the melodramatic stage is something which is called "planting"—that is to say, preparing the spectator's mind. A first-class example occurs in Scribe and Legouvé's "Adrienne Lecouvreur," where the actress dies as the result of plunging her tragic nose into a poisoned bouquet. But unless the audience knows that bouquets can be poisoned this effect must fail, wherefore some four acts previously a Duchess is allowed to deplore the spread of this regrettable practice. But Mr. Wallace overdid it, and went in for such an orgy of getting ready that one could not see the wood for the plantation.

Unnecessarily, too. Take, for example, that scene in which the Chief Thug was to be rescued from the chair. As the reporters filed in, the Chief Warder said:—"One of these days there'll be trouble. Do they think I know every reporter in America by sight?" This gave the scene away, since we were no longer surprised when the rain-coated gentry turned out to be gangsters in disguise. Then take that last scene where we saw what we took to be the body of the Police Chief huddled up at the foot of the couch. Presently the Chief made smiling entry, and, turning his double over, disclosed the Chief Thug. This good surprise was totally defeated by a previous piece of planting in which we had been informed that the Chief Thug was going about wearing the Police Chief's clothes. In both cases the mistake was made of robbing us of a surprise which would have been legitimate and was anyhow self-explanatory.

Good Acting.

The end of the play disappointed. Despite some faultiness in the telling, the story of this duel à outrance had proved highly exciting. Each party to it had declared his intention of coming face to face with the other and "getting" him, and I submit that we ought to have seen him do it. Instead, we were only told about it, and after it had happened, which was like being invited to some mighty clash at the Albert Hall and being fobbed off with next morning's paper. The avoidance is purely Greek, but then the Greeks proposed to their audience further matter to which Mr. Wallace does not pretend. In modern melodrama the Yorkshire way is better, the way of that worthy Tyke who said: "Show me!" I see in this apparent cussedness the nicest calculation, so sure that it just didn't come off. Perhaps Mr. Wallace would do well to re-write this ending, and also to strengthen the doings in the smoky cell. I have seen a bathchair contemplated with greater venom than the Chief Thug was allowed to show.

Mr. Bernard Nedell endowed this villain with all the handsome, glib effrontery we have admired on previous occasions. But will not this well-graced actor consider paying both his audience and his art the compliment of giving old villainy a new cloak? I feel it in my bones that if Mr. Laughton had played this part he would not have been content merely to duplicate Perelli. Mr. Nedell delights, but it is an old delight repeated. Frankly, I was not quite satisfied with Mr. Harold Huth's Police Chief. "John Glayde on top and going to roar!" should be the motto here, and I could not help feeling that this Policeman was underneath, and, if the thing had not been a play, likely to squeal. Mr. Huth is a young actor who, as yet, does not know quite what to do with his hands, and to ask him to manage these and simultaneously tower over a physically bigger man was perhaps to ask too much. But it was obvious that Mr. Huth is an actor who will improve. Is it not time that Mr. Ben Welden was rewarded with a leading part? His second-in-command had all the force, momentum, authority, and, above all, voice which Mr. Huth just lacked. Mr. Percy Parsons, as a bribed subordinate, acted with most convincing vigour, and two tiny parts were exceedingly well played by Messrs. Roy Emerton and Charles Farrell. The author, having gone to Germany, was not present. Doubtless when he is once more on the spot he will be able to tighten up this piece into a first-class success.

Victoria Palace. Wednesday, December 17.

"CHELSEA FOLLIES."

A Revue. By Archibald de Bear and Reginald Arkell. Music by Wolseley Charles.

Wednesday's fog was capricious, since, while London was comparatively clear, in the Thames valley one could not even peep through the blanket of the dark. To turn and crawl back along the Great West Road at three miles an hour and waylay a train travelling very little faster is not the best of preparations for a revue, and one cannot give "Chelsea Follies" higher praise than to vouch for the fact that five minutes of this show sufficed to put fresh heart into a depressed, if legitimate, late-comer who set out for his evening's duties shortly after four. My handsomest apologies are due to the courteous management, which ever welcomes if it cannot always speed the coming guest.

Some wit has said that the cigarette is the type of perfect pleasure for the reasons that it hardly satisfies and is over too quickly. Those admirable zanies, Messrs. Nervo and Knox, have never satisfied one spectator, for whom they have always been over too soon. In this revue they prolong pleasure until it almost becomes pain, and still they leave one asking for more. We see them first at a coffee-stall and next in a boxing booth. Then, capturing the spirit of the antique dance, the gladiatorial Mr. Knox sports with the tangles of Mr. Nervo's hair. This concludes the first part.

In the second part capital fooling ensues in film-studio and schoolyard, Mr. Knox taking occasion to impersonate Eric of blameless memory, while Mr. Nervo presents that youth's father in the chaste knickerbockers of the period. Finally, with the assistance of two more buffoons, the whole quartet, being girt with leopard-skins and showing inordinate display of muscle, gives us that troupe of acrobats which, with arms raised to salute Mr. Fucik's music, are the pièce de résistance of every self-respecting circus. One of their number having performed some totally insignificant feat, he is immediately bundled into the background, while the other three rush forward to claim our excited plaudits. Mr. Eddie Gray makes an inconceivably ludicrous figure of the Ring-master, and I doubt whether ten funnier minutes are discoverable in the philosophy of Bergson.

But the whole show pleased, principally, perhaps, by virtue of that combination of unpretentiousness, high spirits, hard work, and the manifest desire to please, of which Mr. Gillespie, who presents, and Mr. Archie de Bear, who produces, have so obviously the secret. Various ladies made the most of what voices Providence had allotted them, and an extremely efficient and vigorous chorus threw care to the winds together with their limbs. Even the highbrows were catered for, since at the end of the programme Miss Lillebil Ibsen appeared to enchant them with her sketches of foreign artists comporting themselves after their divers nationalities. In quick succession this clever little lady very perfectly hit off the shrill vivacity of your French *diseuse*, the wilting melancholy of the Russian singer of pre-Soviet days, the swelling port of a German *prima donna* mouthing musical comedy at Munich, the extravagant archness of a Spanish dancer with heavily-insured insteps, and last—this time with a deprecatory curtsey to the company on the stage—the simpering nothingness of the English chorus girl promoted to a number.

It only remains to add that among the makers of this revue were Messrs. A. P. Herbert, Reginald Berkeley, Reginald Arkell, and Wolseley Charles, and that when these admirable purveyors momentarily desisted from being witty with their heads the Eight Lancashire Lads became even wittier with their feet. A capital evening enormously enjoyed by an audience representative of London's fashion, beauty, intelligence, and chance. The ordinary blokes liked it, too.

Duchess. Tuesday, December 16.

"JANE'S LEGACY."

A Comedy. By Eden Phillpotts.

A voice has once more breathed o'er Eden, and this fragrant play is the result. Jane Mortimore, who has attained as many summers as Miss Louise Hampton will allow us to compute, has come into a fortune of a thousand pounds. This money is the root not only of all envy, malice and uncharitableness, but of a proposal of marriage to which the fortuneless Jane had not been exposed. It is also the root of many cheerful humours. Those who have experience of Mr. Phillpotts's delicate art will not desire that I should recount in any detail how much he makes of the impact upon rusticity of Fortune's meteoric dole, while the few playgoers who have yet to make acquaintance with this refreshing playwright will doubtless be grateful if the edge is not taken off anticipation. Mr. Phillpotts has certainly done nothing so good since "Yellow Sands," and I cannot decide whether his gratitude to Sir Barry Jackson for continually producing him exceeds that of the Malvern sage at finding expectation answered so loyally.

The piece is beautifully played, as indeed any piece must be in whose cast are numbered Mesdames Louise Hampton, Viola Lyel, Barbara Gott, and Dorothy Hall, and Messrs. Colin Keith-Johnston, Frank Pettingell, and Henry Caine. "Last, loneliest, loveliest, exquisite, apart," as Mr. Kipling said in another connection, is Miss Kathleen Harrison, who creates gumphs as lavishly as Titian created goddesses. It is now on the cards that the Duchess will not look back for a very long time. Which, by the way, is a thing no Duchess should do!

Lyric. Thursday Afternoon, December 18.

"TOAD OF TOAD HALL."

A Play. By A. A. Milne. Music by H. Fraser-Simson.

The tots are the best judges of this. Perhaps they will not enquire too closely whether they feel themselves more indebted to Mr. Milne, the playwright, or to Mr. Kenneth Grahame, the story-teller, from whose book, "The Wind in the Willows," this charming fantasy is taken. Mr. Milne notoriously has the key to all hearts beating in bosoms which have not yet attained the age of 8. But it is generous of him to remember that most of his audience will be in elder custody, and to help all parents, uncles, aunts, dragons, and duennas to keep awake by strewing his piece with occasional quips exceeding infantile grasp. Mr. Fraser-Simson has provided some delightful music, and those admirable actors, Messrs. Richard Goolden, Ivor Barnard, Eric Stanley, and Frederick Burtwell, were hugely entertaining as Mole, Water Rat, Badger, and Toad. Mr. Alfred Clark's Judge should be an abiding memory in the nursery. Lots of child-actors frisked and gambolled, and the peace of Thursday afternoon was only disturbed when, in my immediate neighbourhood, two playgoers pipingly debated whether Mr. Peter Mather, who played the Front Legs of Alfred the Horse, or Mr. B. Halliday Mason, who condescended to the Back Legs, gave the more meritorious performance.

Garrison Theatre, Bordon. Wednesday, December 17.

"HOME AND BEAUTY."

A Farce by W. Somerset Maugham.

Pity the vexatious plight of Victoria, "a dear little thing" (with expensive tastes to match), who has lost her husband, William, in the war, married his best man and best friend, Freddie, and incidentally given each a pledge of her affection. For William wasn't really lost, but only mislaid, and came back after a long spell of amnesia in a German prison. Who is to enlighten him, Freddie or Victoria? Each tries to pass the unpleasant task to the other. After a deal of prevarication, during which William's suspicions are aroused, enter nurse and baby. "Rather small, isn't he?" says William, who knew, before he was knocked out and lost his memory, that his child was expected. "Does he talk much?" "Talk!" replies Nurse, "why he's only four months old!" Then the two officers, played by real soldier men, fall to wrangling, till at last Freddie blurts out the painful truth, and the curtain falls.

Next morning, William has slept in the spare bedroom, Freddie on the drawing-room sofa—and both men are out of temper. The position is intolerable, and a way out must be found. They draw lots, but, mysteriously, each draws a blank! The fact is, each sees through Victoria's protestations of devotion, and is tired of her tantrums. Victoria decides for them; she will divorce them both and marry a profiteer. The divorce will be obtained through an agency proper to farce, which, all the same, deals collusion a shrewd blow. The play ends with the two husbands drinking "short life" to the third.

As the engaging but impossible Victoria, Mrs. Williamson acted with confidence and gaiety. Major Stanley Smith was William, a rough type of soldier, to the life. Major Williamson's impersonation of the profiteer, and his elocution, were admirable; and as Victoria's mother, Mrs. Fox-Strangways conveyed an impression of something better than farce. I should like to see the whole company next time in comedy. The audience was appreciative, but might have been larger.

H. C. M.

WITH THE AMATEURS.

At the Arts Theatre on Thursday last an interesting attempt was made to present an entertainment outside the usual type of play favoured by amateurs, when the Bank of England Operatic, Dramatic, and Orchestral Society produced a revue entitled "The Old Lady Shows Her Mettle." Some humorous items with topical allusion to newspaper insurance schemes and the Bank's workers were well received. The character part of "The Old Brigade" was excellently conveyed by Mr. A. G. Hawes. The dances arranged by The Max Rivers' School suffered somewhat from lack of stage space. The music was provided by two grand pianos, hardly adequate, perhaps, to counteract the rather sombre stage surroundings as a lively orchestra might have done.

"A Cuckoo in the Nest" will be produced on February 25.

G. P.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

THIS WEEK'S PREMIERES.

Dec. 22.—Palladium: "Peter Pan" (matinées).
Savoy: "Alice in Wonderland" (matinées).
Holborn Empire: "Where the Rainbow Ends" (matinées).
Apollo: "The Private Secretary."
New: "Charley's Aunt."
Maskelyne's: "This Magic Stuff."
Olympia: Bertram Mills's Circus.
Dec. 23.—Criterion: "A Pair of Trousers."
Everyman: "Land of the Christmas Stocking."
Children's: "Jack and the Beanstalk."
Dec. 24.—Dominion: "Aladdin."
Embassy: "Carpet Slippers."
Dec. 26.—Prince of Wales's: "Treasure Island" (matinées).
Lyceum: "Robinson Crusoe."
Scala: "The Windmill Man."
Court: "A Business Marriage."
"Q": "Gamble."
Winter Garden: "Follow a Star" (new edition).
Regent: "Paddy the Next Best Thing."
Royalty: "No. 17."
King's, Hammersmith: "Cinderella."
Wimbledon: "Aladdin."
St. Martin's: "Petticoat Influence" (transfer).
Dec. 28.—Arts: Italian Marionette Players.

As usual, the revivals greatly outnumber the new productions in Christmas week. To-morrow, for instance, we have "Peter Pan" at the Palladium, with Miss Jean Forbes-Robertson as Peter; "Alice in Wonderland" at the Savoy, presented by Mr. Hugh Marleyn in a new adaptation of his own, and with Miss Joy Blackwood (who is only 12) as Alice and Miss Phyllis Bedells as principal dancer; and "Where the Rainbow Ends," in its twentieth year, at the Holborn Empire. (These three productions will be given for matinées only, and will not interfere with the normal evening entertainments in the theatres they occupy.) Then there are "Charley's Aunt" at the New, where it succeeds "Petticoat Influence," which removes to the St. Martin's, reopening there on Boxing afternoon; and "The Private Secretary" at the Apollo, with Mr. Charles Walenn and Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn in the cast, both these pieces to be given twice daily. At Maskelyne's, however, there will be a new entertainment called "This Magic Stuff"; and last, but not least, Mr. Bertram Mills presents to-morrow afternoon his eleventh annual circus at Olympia, which, with its usual contingent of Continental acrobats and clowns, with performers from Australia, Canada, and South Africa, and with a group of boys and girls who will demonstrate the Braemar games and dances, should be a highly spectacular entertainment.

On Tuesday, however, we have some new productions. Miss Alice Delysia will appear that evening in "A Pair of Trousers," a comedy by Mr. Frederick Jackson, which will be presented at the Criterion Theatre with a cast including Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Cecily Byrne, Miss Jane Wood, Miss Grizelda Hervey, Miss Stephanie Stevens, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Harold Warrender, Mr. Ivo Dawson, Mr. W. Molesworth Blow, Mr. Hargrave Pawson, and Mr. Ian Hunter. On that afternoon the new "nursery rhymes" play, "Land of the Christmas Stocking," by Captain H. Foord and Mabel Buchanan Stevens, will be presented at the Everyman Theatre, with Miss Marie Dainton and Mr. Lawrence Hanray in the cast; while a third production will be the Children's Theatre pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk."

On Christmas Eve Mr. Julian Wylie presents "Aladdin" at the Dominion; the principals are Miss Ella Retford, Miss Stella Browne, Mr. Wallace Lupino, Mr. Griffiths Moss, Miss Lilliane Gilbert, the Three Pirates, Mr. Albert Darnley, Miss Nellie Wallace, and Mr. Lupino Lane. Christmas Eve will also see the opening of Mr. W. A. Darlington's play at the Embassy, "Carpet Slippers," which will be given by a company comprising Miss Pauline Lacey, Miss Eileen Collins-James, Miss Edith Sharpe, Mr. Wallace Evennett, Miss Leonora Corbett, Mr. Sebastian Shaw, Mr. Francis L. Sullivan, Miss Joyce Bland, Miss Freda Grey, Miss Clare Harris, Mr. André Van Gyseghem, and Mr. John Boxer. The Court of the harem of a sheikh is among the scenes.

On Boxing Day there will be another rush of revivals. "Treasure Island," at the Prince of Wales's (matinées only), will have Mr. Baliol Holloway (as Long John Silver), Mr. Sydney Bland, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Athol Fleming, Mr. Robert Gates, Mr. Ian Braested, Mr. Harold Holland, Mr. Neil Porter, Mr. Harold Reese, and Miss May Beamish in the cast. At the Scala there will be "The Windmill Man"; at the Royalty Mr. J. Jefferson Farjeon's melodrama, "No. 17," first produced in 1925, with Mr. Leon M. Lion, Mr. Ronald Simpson, and Mr. F. Ambrose Flower in their original parts, and Mr. Anthony Ireland and Miss Fabia Drake also in the cast. At the Regent Theatre "Paddy the Next Best Thing" will be revived with Miss Ethel Oliver as Paddy.

There will, however, also be some new productions on Boxing Day: first and foremost, of course, the Lyceum pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," with fourteen varied scenes and a cast including Mr. George Jackley and Naughton and Gold. The King's Theatre, Hammersmith, and Wimbledon have pantomimes, too, "Cinderella" and "Aladdin" respectively; while at the Court a new play, "A Business Marriage," with Miss Athene Seyler, Dame May Whitty, and Messrs. D. A. Clarke-Smith and A. Bromley Davenport in the company, will be presented on Boxing afternoon; and at the "Q" Theatre a "Society drama" by Messrs. Jack de Leon and Jack Celestin, "Gamble," will be seen.

Boxing afternoon will also see the new version of "Follow a Star" at the Winter Garden, with Miss Maisie Gay in the cast in the place of Miss Sophie Tucker. Mr. A. W. Baskcomb has a new song, "A Well-Bred English Gent," while Miss Gay will sing "Young Enough, Old Enough," specially written for her by Mr. Rowland Leigh.

Mr. Leon M. Lion has acquired a new play, by Mr. Clifford Bax, "The Immortal Lady," which is likely to be his next production after "No. 17."

Mr. Maurice Browne has decided to give a special performance of "Caviare" at the Little to-night for members of the London Theatre Company, when the item "Christmas," which was deleted from the programme at the request of the Lord Chamberlain, will be presented.

To-morrow week the People's Theatre, at the Fortune, will present "A Christmas Carol" and "A Pantomime Rehearsal." Mr. Andrew Leigh (as Bob Cratchit), Mr. Robert Farquharson (as Scrooge), Miss Sydney Fairbrother (as Mrs. Cratchit), Mr. Wilfred Fletcher, and Miss Olive Dickens (a descendant of the novelist) will be in the cast of the Dickens piece, while Mr. Ernest Thesiger, Mr. Sebastian Smith, Mr. Thomas Weguelin, Miss Pamela Carme, Miss Elizabeth Maude, and Miss Fairbrother again will appear in "A Pantomime Rehearsal." Mr. Norman Page will produce both pieces.

Next Sunday at the Arts Theatre the Gorno Marionettes will be seen in the pantomime "Ali Baba" and in a "Grand International Variety Programme," including Saul Blackman's Jazz Band, Bim Bam and Blarney's burlesque circus, the Bavarian Ballet, the Haughty-Cultural Concert Party, and Bil-Bal-Bul the gymnast.

D. P.

BROADCASTING.

TO-DAY'S PROGRAMMES.

[illegible]

INTERESTING ITEMS THIS WEEK.

[illegible]

FOREIGN FEATURES.

[illegible]

HOTELS.
(Continued from Page One.)

TORQUAY.
LIVERMEAD CLIFF.
[illegible]

"Old Court" Hotel
AVONCLIFF (via Westwood)
Bradford-on-Avon.
[illegible]

ROSEMULLION HOTEL.
[illegible]

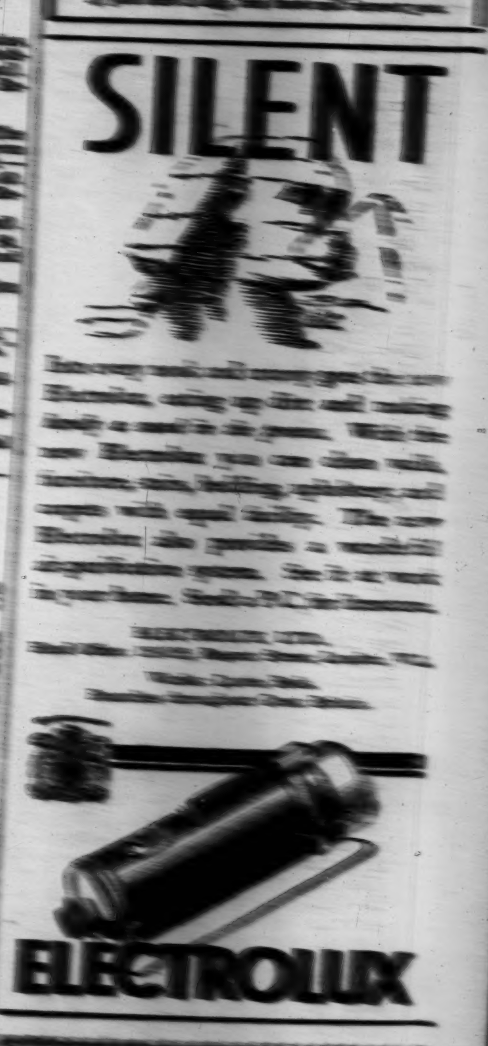
HOVE.
COURTLANDS
THE DRIVE.
[illegible]

CHRISTMAS
ROYAL MARINE HOTEL
VENTNOR, ISLE OF WIGHT.
[illegible]

HOTEL DE NOAILLES
HOTEL BRISTOL
[illegible]

SAN REMO.
THE ROYAL.
[illegible]

THE WONDER BOOK OF DOGS.
[illegible]

SILENT


[illegible]

A DIFFICULTY EASILY SOLVED
[illegible]
Sunday Times
[illegible]

THE WORLD OF MUSIC.

A SOCRATIC-OPERATIC CONVERSATION.

By ERNEST NEWMAN.

SCENE: The Directors' Office at Covent Garden. Colonel Blois and Bruno Walter in close confabulation. To them enter Ernest Newman, a copy of last week's Sunday Times in his hand.

C. B. and B. W. (simultaneously, trying to look as if they meant it): Ah, this is indeed a pleasure, all the greater for being so unexpected.

E. N.: You can spare me ten minutes, I hope, for a little conversation on a matter that has been bothering me a good deal since I read you gentlemen's letters in the Sunday Times last week?

C. B. and B. W. (simultaneously and eagerly): You mean the operatic question?

E. N.: Secondarily, yes; but primarily what I wanted to discuss with you was the English language.

C. B. (looking puzzled): The English language?

E. N.: Yes. It would be presumption on my part to question your ability, Colonel Blois, to run opera, for you have yourself admitted your thorough competence in that respect. Nor would I presume, Herr Walter, to question your profound knowledge of English musical problems and the best way of solving them, [illegible] English musician is [illegible] grateful to you. No, it is not [illegible] I wanted to talk over with you as the humbler one of the meaning of certain everyday English words.

C. B.: Such as?

E. N.: Well, you quote me as having said this in one of my articles: "So far from Covent Garden in recent years having been a model of what opera should be, it has been, in many respects, a painful demonstration of what opera should not be." Now that seems to me a fairly simple sentence; yet it is evident that neither of you gentlemen has been able to grasp the simple meaning of these so simple words.

C. B. and B. W. (simultaneously): How so?

E. N.: Because you have obviously been unable to distinguish between the whole and a part. [illegible]

C. B. and B. W. (look puzzled).

E. N.: Let me come to your rescue with an illustration. If I say that the Japanese are mostly small men, you do not take me to mean that all Japanese are dwarfs.

C. B. (proudly): I can see that!

E. N.: So that it would be no demonstration of the falsity of my generalisation if you were to produce a couple of Japanese of about the height of 6ft. each?

B. W.: That is so.

E. N.: Then surely it is no argument against my thesis that in many respects Covent Garden is a painful demonstration of what opera should not be, to point to a few performances in which Covent Garden has given us a hint of what opera should be? [illegible]

B. W.: Well, that's a first-class cast, isn't it?

E. N.: Not at all a bad cast. But do you suppose I am so silly as to base my conclusion [illegible]

C. B. and B. W. (exchange glances).

E. N.: Since we all recognise that some of the performances at Covent Garden are in certain respects very good, don't you think you go a little too far when you say that my very temperate and balanced words—that "in many respects," and so on—amount to "an unfounded condemnation of all that has been done in Covent Garden opera"?

B. W.: Perhaps my zeal carried me a bit too far.

E. N.: Perhaps it did. Perhaps, also, when you come to consider the matter a little more carefully, you will recognise that you have been dogmatising upon a matter of which you have very little first-hand knowledge.

B. W.: How so? Am I not the conductor at Covent Garden?

E. N.: In the German season, yes. But not in the Italian season.

B. W.: The Italian season? What is that?

E. N.: Ah, I thought you didn't know. With the charming egoism and condescension of your countrymen where music and the British are concerned, you imagine that opera means to us simply the annual repetition of three or four masterpieces of German opera. Are you aware that, strange and incredible as it may seem to you, Covent Garden remains open for several weeks after the Germans have departed?

B. W. (looks inquiringly at C. B.).

C. B. (nods shamefacedly).

E. N.: Are you aware that, after you have gone, we are treated to a number of Italian operas, some of them of the stalest kind, in which the singing is frequently—for all the reputation of some of the "stars"—very bad, the orchestral playing worse, and the acting and the production enough to make the angels weep?

B. W. (aside to C. B.): Is this dreadful thing true?

C. B. (hangs his head. He cannot speak; he raises his eyes, gives E. N. a look that is almost human, sobs brokenly, and then covers his face with his hands. Sobs shake his soldierly frame).

B. W.: You astonish me!

E. N.: Perhaps, Herr Walter, you see now what I mean when I say that in many respects Covent Garden is a painful demonstration of what opera should not be. And now let me put another point to you. Have you ever heard of Britain?

B. W.: Of course. I come over here each summer.

E. N.: Pardon me; you do not come to Britain, but only to London, which is quite another matter. Seemingly you are unaware that what we British are now discussing is the question of setting opera on its feet in the country as a whole, and that the country as a whole does not take an absorbing interest in the international season in London. I readily grant that the international season is an affair of considerable financial importance to the foreign artists who honour us with their company; but our national problem is a far bigger one than that, and, if you will forgive my saying so, it is not a problem on which any of these foreign artists is competent to have an opinion, or in which his intervention, whatever motives may prompt it, will be welcomed by the country as a whole.

B. W.: My dear Mr. Newman, you will believe me when I say that I had no intention of—how do you English say?—butting in.

E. N.: Since you have used that ugly term, which I would never have thought of doing, let me warn you that the British public will not take kindly to anything of that sort from any foreign artist, however eminent. We are engaged in trying to settle a purely national problem that affects the whole of our future operatic life; and we prefer to settle it in our own way. As I have told you, the country as a whole is not greatly concerned with the foreign season in London. The maintenance of that in the present form may be of supreme importance to the foreign artists who take part in it, but it is of quite minor importance to opera-lovers in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, and a number of other towns. Their problem is a much bigger one, and it is one that natives of other countries cannot be expected to understand. All that foreign artists are interested in is coming over here and giving us to the best of their ability—in some cases, such as yours, and those of the best of your German singers, the ability is great—a few performances of the same half-dozen masterpieces year after year. The country wants a good deal more than that: it wants a solid and varied operatic repertory, and it wants it in English.

C. B.: That is the ideal of my Syndicate.

E. N.: No doubt it is; the only thing that is troubling some of us is whether you are the best conceivable persons in the country to realise that ideal.

C. B.: You must give us time and the means.

E. N.: You have had both the time and the means to make a step forward at Covent Garden next year, and what have you done? With the prospect, of which you were perhaps surer a few weeks ago than you are now, of a grant of at least £17,500 out of public money, to say nothing of the other large sums at your disposal, you have just put out a prospectus which I can only call deplorable. The Germans will give us the usual Wagner and Strauss, with the "Magic Flute" and the "Rosenkavalier." The Italian season is to consist of three Verdi operas, one Rossini, three Puccinis, and Zandonai's "Francesca da Rimini." (It is true that you speak of possible "additions" to the unpublished schemes). If this is your idea of a national opera, I can only express once more my conviction that you are not the ideal persons to run an institution of that kind. You seem incapable of doing any original thinking. (To B. W.): Would you regard a repertory of that kind as being adequate for Berlin?

B. W.: No.

E. N.: Then I hope you don't regard it as being adequate for London, to say nothing of the country, which is to be fed by wireless with this repertory. And you are the people who fancy you have established a moral and artistic right to be the recipients of a public subsidy and to shape the destinies of a national opera?

C. B.: Give us time.

E. N.: Some people would like to. But just one more little point. You say that the £5,000 to be allotted to your Syndicate in respect of the current quarter is not to cover your losses for the last few months. Then will you kindly tell an expectant country what it is for? If it is for next year pure and simple, then you seem to be getting for next year not merely £17,500, but £22,500. If it is really for "the current quarter," will you tell us precisely why it is needed, and precisely how it is going to be applied? May I remind you that, if, by this public subsidy, you are virtually made into a public institution, it is your duty to let the public see your balance-sheet, commencing with the current quarter? May I take it that you will gratify public curiosity on this point forthwith?

C. B. (rising): Well, it's been a most interesting conversation, and I am sorry to have to bring it to an end, but I have a luncheon engagement.

THE WEEK'S MUSIC.

Beethoven and Scherchen.

The performance of Beethoven's Mass in D at the B.B.C. concert on Wednesday was not quite what we expected. The most satisfactory feature of it was the singing of the gallant and well-trained National Chorus. Of the four soloists, only Mr. Horace Stevens seemed thoroughly at his ease with either the music or the conductor. The orchestral playing was at times so awkward and ragged that one could only come to the conclusion that the men are not comfortable under the somewhat academic beat of Hermann Scherchen. It was not only in technical matters, however, that he left us wondering at the choice of him for a work of this kind. [illegible] are inadequate for, and inappropriate to, a work of this stature and texture. Its grandeur and its pathos are alike obscured, [illegible] that Scherchen imposes on it.

The New Chamber Orchestra.

On Friday evening a very capable combination of picked players, calling itself the New Chamber Orchestra, gave a concert under the direction of Mr. Charles Kreshover, who, I understand, has seen a good deal of experience in a London orchestra. He shaped very well as a conductor in a Haydn Symphony. It is difficult to forgive him, however, for wasting his own, the orchestra's, and our time with a first (and almost certainly the last) performance of Paul Juon's Chamber Symphony for eight solo instruments. Juon is a fifty-eight-year-old Russian, who settled in Germany. His music speaks elementary German with a faint Russian accent. That would not matter so much were his ideas not so utterly commonplace. It is almost incredible that in these days a composer can go on talking for half-an-hour and say so little as is said in this Chamber Symphony. The enterprising writer of the programme note on the work informed us that Juon is "the last of the melodists." He certainly is not the first of melodists.

E. N.

Recital Notes.

John Hunt, the young pianist who concluded a series of three recitals at Wigmore Hall on Monday, leaves no doubt of his susceptibility to rhythm, the life-force of music. [illegible]

Miss Dorothy Moulton had a success with songs by Norman Peterkin at Tuesday's concert of the London Contemporary Music Centre at Steinway Hall: they vindicate the somewhat uncommon combination of voice and viola, and obviously she had found them worth working at. Bernard Shore, the distinguished viola player, besides accompanying her, played the sonatas for viola and piano by Bax and Hindemith. The piano (Angus Morrison) had too voluptuous a tone for the acerbities of the Bax; on the other hand, three short pieces by Gordon Jacob went very well.

George Chavchavadze, who reappeared at Wigmore Hall on Wednesday, still occasionally allows impetuosity to run away with his truly musical impulses; the tone is overloaded, the time forced in moments of excitement. Nor is the technique impeccable, the reliance on both pedals well advised. Attention to details like these would easily bring his playing well abreast of current professional standards in piano-playing.

H. F.

THE OPERA SUBSIDY

OUR READERS' VIEWS.

To the Editor of the SUNDAY TIMES.

Sir,—The letters of Colonel Blois and Herr Walter, published last Sunday, seem to me quite outside the artistic point at issue.

No one disputes that operas at Covent Garden are not sometimes well sung and conducted and give pleasure to those (chiefly) who want to hear and see the traditional and familiar. But this achievement alone does not warrant the Covent Garden Opera Syndicate in thinking that it is a growing force in the nation's artistic life. It is, indeed, more likely that its traditions and its atmosphere (largely social) are inimical to any new and living conception of opera. It gives the appearance of being static rather than dynamic. Good singers and experienced conductors are only incidentals to the real conception of opera as a synthesis of all the arts.

At this moment, when the future of opera in this country is in the air, let the subsidy be given to any opera syndicate that can produce a man sufficiently imaginative and sensitive to be able to re-create the works of the past and be a rallying point for the developments of the future.

London, N.W.3. ARTHUR BLISS.

GOOD SINGING NOT ENOUGH.

Sir,—Colonel Eustace Blois's letter in your last issue completely justifies Mr. Ernest Newman's criticisms of Covent Garden. It is no defence to say that he is merely acting under instructions. If he is merely a figurehead, it is very unfair that his name should bulk so large on the programmes for the board of directors to hide behind. No doubt the gentleman responsible for the lighting according to the programme does not move every switch and cut every carbon, but—if his name is printed—he must not expect to get away with it by pointing out that actually someone else was working the dimmers, and, anyway, the producer is to blame for planning such lighting.

Colonel Blois admits that "conditions have not allowed us to do all that we should have liked in the way of stage settings," yet he imagines that all else must be forgiven, seeing that "practically all the great singers of the opera stage have been brought to London." This proves that he, whether speaking for the directors or for himself, refuses to realise that good singing does not make an opera. Opera consists of libretto, music, orchestra, singers, scenery, production, all welded together. It is this very union that is completely lacking at Covent Garden. Lehmann, Leider, Schumann, Andresen, and the rest may induce the audience to forget inadequacies, but they cannot, for all their brilliance, achieve a good performance of an opera: at best, they can and do give us lovely singing. Generally speaking, as Mr. Newman says, the recent international seasons at Covent Garden have been contemptible.

Colonel Blois replies to Mr. Newman's query whether the proposed grant of £5,000 for the current quarter is to reimburse the syndicate for losses incurred as a purely private concern with the answer, "No." He seems to think this an adequate reply. Is he really so innocent?

Tottenham, N. DENNIS ARUNDELL.

IN DEFENCE OF THE ARTISTS.

Sir,—As a season ticket holder at Covent Garden for the past two seasons I feel that I must write and disagree with your correspondent in the SUNDAY TIMES of December 14, who signs himself "Music Lover." I see that he states that he and many others are under the impression that many of the season ticket holders of last year's opera (I suppose he means last season's opera) were far from satisfied with the voices of the artists, with two exceptions, whom he mentions.

I fear that "Music Lover" must be difficult to please, or perhaps he was not fortunate enough to listen to some of the artists whom Herr Bruno Walter mentions in his admirable letter, in addition to some of the greatest singers of Italian opera of our time who came from opera houses both in Italy and America.

I venture to suggest that he would have had to go a very long way before he could have heard so many famous artists together as were singing in the first cycle of "The Ring," and, indeed, throughout the whole German season last spring at Covent Garden.

As regards the Italian season, so well known were many of the singers that I heard a complaint that the performances were arranged for the singers, which resulted in the operas not always being worthy of the artists.

I am not defending the antiquated scenery, or even some of the bad lapses in the orchestra, which we all know are open to criticism, but I do feel that it is quite unjustifiable to criticise the singers, most of whom are world famous.

Charlbury, Oxon. OLIVER WATNEY.

Continued from next column.

Diamonds, 6, 3; Clubs, J, 6, 7, 2) should pass. This is a business double as B had previously bid.

Gauge.—In Auction a call of "Four Hearts" by A at the score love all in the rubber game over a dealer's (Z's) call of "Three Spades" is [illegible] Spades, Q, x, x; Hearts, A, Q, J, x, x, x; Diamonds, x; Clubs, Q, J, x. The bidding then proceeded: Y, "No Bid"; B, "No Bid"; Z, "Four Spades"; A, "No Bid"; Y, "No Bid"; B (holding Spades, 10, 8, 7, 5, 4; Hearts, K, x, x; Diamonds, K, x, x, x; Clubs, x) said "Five Hearts" which was doubled. Answer.—As Y was unable to support Z's Spades, it must be better for B to double this contract than to attempt to make eleven tricks against an opponent's strong call.

BRIDGE.

Conducted by YARBOROUGH.

A CHRISTMAS COMPETITION.

£20, £10 AND £5 PRIZES.

The "Sunday Times" offers three prizes of £20, £10, £5 to the competitors whose replies to eight of the following nine questions are nearest to those of the judges:—

1. In the first hand of a rubber the dealer holds Spades, nil; Hearts, 9, 3, 2; Diamonds, A, K, Q, J, 6, 5, 4, 3; Clubs, 5, 4. What should he say? (Mr. Ely Culbertson.)
2. The final declaration is "Three No-trumps" by Z. A leads the 4 of Hearts. The dummy has Spades, Q, 10, 4; Hearts, 9, 7, 3; Diamonds, A, J, 9, 6, 4; Clubs, K, 7; and plays the 3. How should B play holding Spades, A, 7, 3, 2; Hearts, A, Q, 2; Diamonds, K, 8; Clubs, 10, 5, 3, 2. (Mr. Milton Work.)
3. The bidding has been A (dealer), "No Bid"; Y, "No Bid"; B, "One Spade"; Z, "One No-trump"; A, "Two Spades"; Y, "No Bid"; B, "No Bid"; Z, "Two No-trumps"; and all pass. A leads the 2 of Spades, Dummy, holding the 3 and the 5, plays the 3. B holds the A, K, 9, 8, 4 of Spades. How should B now play?
4. The opening bidder has called "One Spade" at Contract. Score, love all. The next player passed. What should the opening bidder's partner say, holding Spades, A, 9, 5, 2; Hearts, Q, 9, 6; Diamonds, K, 8, 4; Clubs, J, 7, 2? (Mr. George Reith.)
5. Z (dealer) bid "One Diamond," holding Spades, 6, 3; Hearts, A, J; Diamonds, K, J, 8, 7, 2; Clubs, A, K, 8, 4. A passed. Y said "One Spade," holding Spades, K, Q, 10, 4, 2; Hearts, 9, 6, 3; Diamonds, Q, 5; Clubs, Q, 10, 5. B passed. Z said "Two No-trumps." A passed. Y said, "Three No-trumps," and all passed. A led the King of Hearts, on which Z played the Knave after B had played the 2. A then led the Queen of Hearts, B followed suit with the 8 of Hearts, and Z took the trick. What are now the chances of the declarer making his contract, and what *briefly* are your reasons for your estimate of his chances. (Mr. Sydney Lenz.)
6. The dealer, Z (holding Spades, A, J, 9, 3; Hearts, A, J; Diamonds, A, J, x; Clubs, K, 9, 8, 3) bid "One No-trump" at a love score. A bid "Two Clubs." Y passed. B passed. What should Z now say?
7. The dealer, A, bid "One Heart." Score love all. Y passed. B (holding Spades, K, J, 10, 7, 2; Hearts, 6, 5; Diamonds, A, 2; Clubs, J, 8, 6, 5) bid "One No-trump." Z passed. A bid "Two Clubs." Y passed. What should B now say?
8. The declarer (Z) holding Diamonds, A, 9, 8, 5, 4, is leading out some rounds as they are trumps. On the first round he leads the 4. A plays the Knave. Dummy, holding the K, 7, 3, plays the King, and B plays the 2. Dummy then leads the 7 and B play the 6. How should the declarer now play?
9. The declarer holds the A, Q, 8, 7, 5 of trumps and dummy leads the Knave of this suit from J, 10, 6, 4, 2. The next player drops the 3. What card should the declarer now play?

RULES OF THE COMPETITION.

The competition is under the Portland Club Laws for Auction and for Contract. The decision of the judges in each case is final.

Each competitor may send in one set only of replies to any eight questions out of the nine. Should a competitor send in nine replies in error instead of eight only, the last reply will be ignored. Questions 1, 2, 4, and 5 have been very kindly given to me by the authorities quoted.

Question No. 4 is the only question which is purely Contract. The others can be answered either as Auction or as Contract, but the two varieties of game must not be mixed in the replies.

Replies should be marked "Bridge Competition," and sent to "Yarborough," c.o. SUNDAY TIMES, 135, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. The use of a postcard is *specially* desired. The latest date on which replies can be received is January 3, 1931. Replies should either be endorsed "Auction" or "Contract."

A PROBLEM.

A correspondent has forwarded the following problem as "worked out by a master at Repton School."

♠ A Q 10
♥ A K Q J
♦ Q J 10 9 8 7
♣ nil

♠ K J 9 8 7
♥ 5 4 3 2
♦ nil
♣ K Q J 10

Y
A B
(DECLARER)
Z

♠ 6 5 4 3 2
♥ nil
♦ 6 5 4 3 2
♣ 4 3 2

♠ nil
♥ 10 9 8 7 6
♦ A K
♣ A 9 8 7 6 5

A leads the King of Clubs and the declarer Z makes the Grand Slam with Hearts as trumps. The solution will appear next week.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Futile.—It is not unsportsmanlike to take a penalty if it is better than game and rubber; in fact, it is unfair to your partner if you do not.

F. M. M.—The declarer can expose all his cards without penalty. If an opponent then claims a named lead from the partner in error, the declarer can enforce no penalty for this irregular claim.

Baldovan.—After Z has bid "Three Spades" and A "Four Clubs," at Auction, Z, in saying, "Not enough, we will play it in 'Three Spades,'" forfeits his right to a penalty, and the bid of "Four Clubs" is now in order, and bidding proceeds normally.

Lady Jane.—(1) The original lead from K, J, 10, 9, x, against a "No-trump" call is the Knave. Some prefer the 10 to distinguish between K, J, 10, and A, J, 10, but the Knave is more usual. (2) A revoke is established when the trick is turned and quitted.

Josy.—The dealer, holding Spades, A, Q, 10, x, x; Hearts, Q, 10, 9, 8, x, x, x; Clubs, K, must bid the hand as a two-suiter, beginning here with "One Heart," then showing Spades later. As there are two more Hearts than Spades, the normal bidding order of the higher suit first is reversed.

Kirk.—After the following bidding: Z (dealer), "One Spade"; A, "Double"; Y, "No Bid"; B, "Two Hearts"; Z, "Double"; A, "No Bid"; Y (holding Spades, 10, 9, 8; Hearts, 9, 8, 6, 3;

Continued on preceding column.

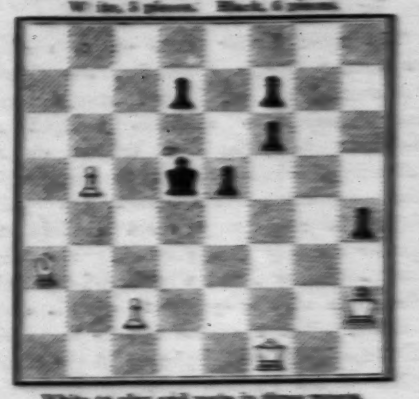
CHESS.

By L. VAN VLIET.

Solution of Problem No. 2,322: 1. R—R6! If Kt—B5; 2. R—R2 mate! [illegible]

PROBLEM No. 2,323.—By W. [illegible]

White, 5 pieces. Black, 6 pieces.



White to play and mate in three moves.

CORRECT SOLVERS.

[illegible]

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS. [illegible]

The final match for the English Counties Championship [illegible] between Lancashire and Nottinghamshire [illegible]

[illegible]

ACROSTICS.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC No. 2,323.

(The Third of the Quartet.)

[illegible]

1. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]

Solutions [illegible]

DOUBLE ACROSTIC No. 2,322, AND ANSWER.

[illegible]

1. N EWFOUNDLAN D
2. E WILLY E
3. E NTERPRIS E
4. D IAMON D

Acrostic No. 2,320 [illegible]

FILM NOTES.

A BRUTAL RUSSIAN PICTURE.

By SYDNEY W. CARROLL.

The Film Society gave its forty-third performance last Sunday, beginning with two studies of "Artists at Work," as a first instalment of a new instructional series. The labours of Alceo Dossena and Alexander Calder were exemplified in moving pictures of no particular merit or interest. The story of the former's activities as a "reproducer" of ancient styles of art ought, it seemed to me, to have yielded better results. An amusing demonstration followed of sound as heard when projected backward.

* * *

A Russian picture directed by V. I. Pudovkin, and entitled "The Mechanism of the Brain," proved to be one of the most brutal pieces of pretentiousness ever shown in public or private. Under the shield of scientific investigation, a series of diabolical outrages and tricks upon children and dumb animals roused my wrath to such an extent that I was filled with overwhelming nausea and a strong desire to leave the theatre—an impulse that several other spectators put into practice. Why it should be permissible to show experiments that would render those responsible for them subject to a prosecution by the R.S.P.C.A. or the N.S.P.C.C., were they done in public, I fail to understand.

After this unpleasant experience an exquisitely dainty silhouette film by that incomparable artist, Lotte Reiniger, fortunately restored the sanity and balance of the afternoon. It was a fantasy entitled "Ten Minutes with Mozart," and was accompanied by music compiled by Wolfgang Zeller from original scenes by Mozart.

* * *

The main film of the afternoon was a magnificent adventure in publicity by the Hamburg-Amerika Line. This extraordinary combination of group pictures and sounds, called "World Melody," aims at providing rapid and cinematic comparisons between similar aspects of life and character all over the world. The eye and mind jump with lightning rapidity from continent to continent, resting on juxtaposed scenes of corresponding subjects. The result is a strange international harmony and resemblance, evidencing in a beautiful and striking way the kinship of man.

* * *

The new and beautiful Leicester Square Cinema has opened with "Viennese Nights." This shows in a 100 per cent. all-colour singing and talking picture how America has completely conquered the Austrians, every inhabitant of the beautiful city of Vienna speaking broken American or still more impoverished German. Odd little German phrases and a plentiful shower of Ja! Ja!s break up the dialogue, making it clear that Mr. Alan Crosland, the director, has as little sense of humour as he has of logic.

If he had contented himself with sound as distinct from speech and made his chief appeal through the beautiful scenes and settings, Sigmund Romberg's glorious music might have pulled him through. As it is, he only succeeds in making an absurd story completely and utterly ludicrous. Many of the remarks made by the characters have an unconscious and misplaced humour of a destructive kind. [illegible] picture was favourably received.

* * *

"Follow Thru," at the Plaza, is a [illegible] coloured version of the [illegible] performed in London at the [illegible] Theatre. [illegible]

* * *

At the Empire [illegible]

THEATRES. [illegible]

[illegible]

CHOICE WINES for CHRISTMAS

PORT [illegible]

SHERRY [illegible]

CHAMPAGNE [illegible]

BRANDY [illegible]

WHISKY [illegible]

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[illegible]

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[illegible]

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

"THE APPLE CART."

"The Apple Cart." A Political Extravaganza. By Bernard Shaw. (Constable. 5s.)

By DESMOND MacCARTHY.

The week before last, on a motion to discuss public economies, the House was counted out. Neither Labour, Liberal nor Conservative members thought it desirable to attend a debate on a subject of vital interest to the people they represent. No doubt any politician in any party could explain to you or me why they personally abstained from attendance, and why it did not suit the game of any party to discuss such matters. But I should not be surprised if to the historian the picture of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, standing in the door-way and watching with relief the success of a count-out, did not appear significant as symptomatic of the causes which led to the subsequent decay of Parliamentary government. The House of Commons, he will say, had gradually ceased to show interest in matters of real concern to those who elected it, while the qualities which secured election became increasingly unlike those of the smallest value in a consultative body. The quadrennial crop of politicians became poorer and poorer in quality, while the electorate, cynically as far as the educated were concerned and ignorantly as far as the rest, voted alternately for opposite parties, knowing that in self-interest and incompetence there was not much to choose between them. It is also possible that he might then refer to this passage from Mr. Shaw's preface to "The Apple Cart" on Democracy:—

> Its painfully evolved machinery of Parliament and party system and Cabinet is so effective in obstruction that we take thirty years by Constitutional methods to do thirty minutes' work, and shall presently be forced to clear up thirty years' arrears in thirty minutes by unconstitutional ones unless we pass a Reform Bill that will make a complete revolution in our political machinery and procedure. When we see Parliaments like ours kicked into the gutter by dictators, both in kingdoms and republics, it is foolish to wait until the dictator dies or collapses, and then do nothing but pick the poor old things up and try to scrape the mud off them: the only sane course is to take the step by which the dictatorship could have been anticipated and averted, and construct a political system for rapid positive work instead of slow negatory work, made to fit into the twentieth century instead of into the sixteenth.

Futility of Democratic Government.

"The Apple Cart" proved to be by far the most popular of Mr. Shaw's "discussion" plays. It was thoroughly enjoyed by people who found the proportion of talk to action excessive in such plays as "Misalliance" and "Getting Married." The reason it was received with such grateful enthusiasm was that, unlike the politicians, the dramatist was discussing what the public were interested in. It was as brilliantly topical as "John Bull's Other Island" was in 1905, although the character drawing was more perfunctory. It was immensely liked by the stalls and dress-circle because it guyed amusingly and pointedly Labour governments, much as "John Bull's Other Island" had made fun of the Liberals.

The condition of the country in the play differs only from the present in that the national income has, at the date imagined, been so distributed that there is no effective discontent and the tenor of social life is still more Americanised. Politics only attract second-raters who cannot carve out for themselves a career in other fields; the devices by which politicians become popular and "rise" (but no longer to honour) are so futile as to fill self-respecting men with nausea; the party machine makes the Cabinet independent of the House of Commons, and Cabinets are full of duds or representatives of dubious "interests"; the Prime Minister has to use all his wits in trimming between these interests and cajoling these duds, instead of applying his brains to real problems. The play was an object-lesson in the futility of democratic government.

Mr. Shaw's Protest.

In contrast and set in conflict against such Ministers stands the King. The dramatist enlists our sympathies on his side. He is a more experienced statesman, and, above all, disinterested. He is independent of the Press and the voter. He is prepared to attack the all-powerful "Breakages Trust," which the Labour Government is not. The impression that the play created was that the only barrier left between courage and foolish legislation was a Royal Veto; that is to say, the disinterested decisions of a man who was not a mere puppet, guided by ignorant popular opinion or by a few greedy energetic persons, good fellows perhaps in private life, but without any training in statesmanship. But in his preface Mr. Shaw protests against this interpretation. He tells us not to take his play at "its suburban face value." [illegible]

Government by the Few.

[illegible]

positive initiative and of what is essential to the functioning of Democratic institutions, a permanent, individual interest in public affairs. . . . Parliaments if they are Sovereign are oligarchies; narrow and highly professional oligarchies at that. They can only work, therefore, when they are Aristocratic and act in an aristocratic community. But once this sham is exposed (and all over civilisation its exposure is now thorough), there remains no instrument of government consonant with the conception of strict national unity and greatness combined, save Monarchy.

If this is true we are, indeed, in a bad way, for the business of ruling the country clearly cannot be undertaken by a single man. The value of Mr. Belloc's short emphatic book lies in its diagnosis, not in its suggested remedy. Mr. Shaw's alternative is Socialism. We can only be ruled intelligently by a bureaucracy of specialists. He has argued the matter up and down in his "Intelligent Woman's Guide to Socialism." Those who find this preface disappointing may be referred to that book. King Magnus in the play is a figure representing not the idea of Monarchy, but of intelligent bureaucracy.

Bureaucracy and Inventions.

The preface is disappointing partly because it consists largely of his address on Democracy delivered by Wireless Broadcast in October, 1929, which was not one of his happiest speeches, and partly because it is devoted to discourse upon an inventor called Gattie, with whom Mr. Shaw came in personal contact and whom no capitalist apparently backed. The description of Gattie's inventions, one of which consisted of a contrivance for transferring Mr. Shaw from one truck to another without spilling a glass of water set at his feet, sound impressive on paper, but they were turned down. Now Mr. Shaw's explanation is that no transport company wished to avoid breakages! This sounds most unlikely. It is more probable that the invention was not immediately practicable from some other point of view; while in so far as we have seen bureaucracies in action, they appear far less favourable to new inventions than capitalist organisations. Bureaucracies are always willing to spend quantities of money on office organisation, but experience points to their being very reluctant—and naturally—to invest public money in new inventions. The argument based on the case of Gattie is therefore weak.

"The Apple Cart" is an amusing fantasia on our present social predicaments. It reads, like all his plays, quite as well as it acts. But it is far from ranking high among the plays of Bernard Shaw, and its popularity chiefly rested upon the deserved unpopularity of modern politicians.

THE TWO POWERS.

"The Fall of Christianity." By Professor G. J. Heering. (Allen and Unwin. 10s. 6d.)

"The Things That Are Not Cæsar's." A Translation of "Primauté du Spirituel." By Jacques Maritain. (Sheed and Ward. 7s. 6d.)

Reviewed by EDWARD SHILLITO.

There are two Powers: the Spiritual and the Temporal. How are they to be related? This vital question is discussed by these two writers from different standpoints. Dr. Heering is a Dutch scholar; M. Maritain is a French theologian. The first is a Protestant, the second a Catholic; but both are concerned to define the true position of the Church in the modern world. Dr. Heering brings a severe indictment against the Church for its failure to condemn war; this is due, he believes, to many causes, among them the too close alliance of the Church with the State, and the acquiescence of the Church in "political expediency and the nationalist idea." The indictment is supported by a wealth of historical instances, for the writer deals once more, as others have done, with the conflict between primitive Christianity and the resort to war. He sets down nine things the Church can do at the present moment, number eight being that it must not be side-tracked by the "Red peril." A weighty treatise, which certainly calls for an answer from those who defend the participation of Christian States and Christian individuals in warfare. The author has his own difficulties, which he honestly faces; perhaps the most difficult of all is to reconcile belief in the State and "constitutional authority" with an entire rejection of the sword.

A New Middle Age.

The work of the French theologian is a brilliant discussion of another phase of the same theme as a Catholic approaches it. The author has his eye all the time upon the spiritual situation of France. He has no hesitation in believing that the two states to which each of us belong are closely related: the terrestrial state has for its end the common temporal good, and the universal state of the Church has for its end eternal life. The terrestrial must be subordinate to the spiritual; of the two swords one must be above the other. The Church, however, will only use its power in matters which concern the spiritual order of salvation; it will act directly and indirectly with a view to the "denunciation or avoidance of sin, the preservation of the good of souls, and the maintenance of the liberty of the Church." With courage and even audacity M. Maritain defends the past action of the Church in such matters. In the mystic body of Christ he claims that "the shortcomings of human nature still serve the most holy action of God, which never fails to attain its goal."

At the moment he sees a Europe which has forgotten even the subordination of political to spiritual ends. We are on the threshold of an age when the high hopes set upon nationalism are dying, and a new Middle Age is at hand. "The war between the angels" will once more dominate history. Christendom is not to be identified with European civilisation.

[illegible]

Call for Saints.

[illegible]

EDMUND BLUNDEN'S POETRY.

"Poems, 1914-30." By Edmund Blunden. (Cobden-Sanderson. [illegible])

"A Summer's Fancy." By Edmund Blunden. Limited Edition. (Beaumont Press. [illegible])

Reviewed by [illegible]

Nearly fifteen years ago—in April, 1916—there appeared a little book of verse called "Pastorals," price a shilling. The author of it, as the editor, [illegible] explained, had only recently left school, and was "a scholar elect" of Queen's College, Oxford. [illegible]

"The Waggoner."

[illegible]

His Later Work.

[illegible]

Some Criticism.

[illegible]

ELIZABETHAN MANNERS.

[illegible]

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

[illegible]

THE IRON HORSE.

[illegible]

NEW FICTION.

SOME TRANSLATIONS.

[illegible]

A QUIET YEAR.

[illegible]

[illegible] TO PALACE.

[illegible]

[illegible] of blocks north, Richard Croker, the Democratic boss, held sway at the Hoffman house.

To-day all that has passed. The hotels of New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and other big cities have become too large and too impersonal for such use. In that period, however, they were as much clubs as hotels, and men of prominence in various walks of life could always be found in the lobbies or bar rooms of their favourite houses. It was easy in that period to walk up Broadway from Park Row, the newspaper section, to about Twenty-third Street, stopping at half a dozen places and meeting almost everyone of consequence in public life. At a later period the famous Waldorf Astoria at Fifth Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street became the headquarters of the steel magnates and of Wall Street generally.

Increased Living Costs.

Nothing illustrates the rise in the cost of living better than a comparison of hotel rates to-day with those of former times. Up to about 1880 the "American plan" was in general use for hotel charges. By this was meant an inclusive charge for room and four large meals daily, and the rate varied from about one dollar to two dollars a day. Mr. Williamson admits that the host probably lost money on his food, but he made it up from his bar receipts. Prohibition put an end to that possibility.

One last word on hotel development. The early American inn had one large room upstairs, where all the guests slept on cots, and there was not even separation of the sexes. The New Waldorf Astoria now under construction in New York will have 2,253 guest rooms, each with bath, and many with parlours attached. In addition there will be 600 de luxe suites, four ballrooms, and many other public rooms. The early American tavern has grown up.

FOR CAT LOVERS.

"Cat's Company." By Michael Joseph. (Geoffrey Bles. 15s.)

Reviewed by FRANCES STEVENSON.

I believe that there exist people who cannot remain in a room if a cat is there. On the other hand there are some, including a famous Frenchman, who eulogise cats as being far better company and more intelligent than dogs. They are more to be admired, these people contend, because of their independence and complete lack of servility. I cannot understand the former class of person: but neither could I understand the latter until I had read Mr. Joseph's entertaining book, a symposium of cat stories collected from all the world over, and accompanied by a series of most delightful drawings by that celebrated artist, Mr. B. F. Dolbin. Mr. Joseph himself, while admitting that dogs are companionable creatures, contends that "the dog cannot hold a candle to the cat on the score of intelligence." The examples he gives of his own and other people's experiences go a long way to prove that his contention is right.

This book, dedicated to Mr. Joseph's little daughter, will give pleasure to many other small daughters—and possibly sons. But no less will fathers and mothers take a delight in this fascinating book of reminiscences by a cat lover. There are stories of his own cats—including some about Scissors and Lillywhite, who were his companions during the war in the trenches—stories of Mohammed's cat, of cats belonging to Cardinal Wolsey, M. Poincaré, and many others. There is the story of Nigger, the London bootblack's cat, of cats belonging to Compton Mackenzie, to Mrs. Hoover, and to Dr. Johnson. There are stories of seafaring cats, references to the cats of fiction, as well as a myriad of interesting and remarkable cat stories collected from all quarters.

STUART DOCUMENTS.

"Constitutional Documents of the Reign of James I." By J. R. Tanner. (Cambridge University Press. 18s.)

This is a collection of political papers intended to illustrate the growth of the constitution under James I. It is similar in form to Dr. Tanner's earlier volume, "Tudor Constitutional Documents," and will have the same value in placing at the easy disposal of the historical student the various important acts, papers, and transactions of the reign.

The principal interest to the general reader is the amount of attention that James and his councillors gave to the problems arising from the recent Union between England and Scotland, a union which at the time was more of a blood relationship through the person of the king than a legal marriage.

DIPLOMACY AND THE WORLD WAR.

[illegible]

[illegible] The doctrine of Nationality drove Austria—perhaps to her advantage—out of Italy in 1866. Carried further, it deprived her of access to the sea (at Trieste and Pola, to say nothing of the Dalmatian coast) in 1919. The "ramshackle" Empire of the Hapsburgs existed in defiance of the principle of Nationality. How, then, could Metternich be expected to encourage that principle, and not, indeed, to do everything in his power to arrest its progress?

But I must not pursue further my criticism of detailed points in Professor Mowat's book, lest I should give the impression that I fail to appreciate its outstanding excellence. Let me then, in a sentence, commend it most warmly as an admirable book on a period of super-eminent importance. Had it been less admirable I should have been content to ignore the "spots on the sun." But the book as a whole is so good that I hope to see some of the spots disappear from subsequent editions. The defect of perspective is more obstinate, but even that, I believe, is in form rather than in substance, and might be corrected, should I be fortunate enough to persuade Mr Mowat that it exists.

MONGOLIA.

"The Mongolian Horde." By Roland Strasser. (Cape. 12s. 6d.)

Reviewed by D. F. HOOK.

To the north of India lies the land of Tibet. To the north again stretches the Gobi desert and the vast territory of Mongolia. Here, it is sometimes said, was the cradle of humanity, in which man first appeared, to make what he could of the world the gods had given him.

The religious philosophy which the Mongols evolved in explanation of the nature of things included the theory of re-incarnation, and assumed that, in his existences on earth and during the long periods when the soul was passing from death to re-birth, man was placed at the mercy of a host of malignant demons, whose one desire was to entrap him again, and yet again, in the toils of the flesh. Only through the full realisation of a spiritual entity, and the achievement of a continuity of consciousness through all the stages of the soul's progress, could escape be found from the wheel which turns unceasingly from life to life. Any attempt by man to better his material lot was counted, not only futile, but wicked.

Such, according to Herr Strasser, the author of this book, is the outlook which the Mongolians, under the influence of their own peculiar environment, have acquired; and he sees this outlook, with which is bound up a fierce desire for isolation from the outside world, as part of the natural law under which these people must live. There are, however, signs that there must soon be an incursion, in one form or another, of western ideas into Mongolia and Tibet, and Herr Strasser, though he draws no detailed conclusions as to the ultimate result of this, makes significant comments on happenings and tendencies which have come under his own notice.

Attempt at Westernisation.

The first contact between the Indian and Tibetan governments was made in 1910, in which year the Chinese invaded Tibet, forcing the Tali-Lama to fly to India and to claim the protection and assistance of the British. Since then, in Herr Strasser's view, the latter have been seeking in Tibet a buttress for their northern border, and a market for their trade. Of the outside world the Tali-Lama knew nothing until his entry into India, but he quickly learnt that the armed invasions of the Chinese could be resisted successfully only by means of force, while the courteous treatment which he had received at the hands of the British tended to weaken his hitherto strong disapproval of relations between his own country and India, and, to some extent, he agreed to the introduction of western ideas into Tibet. The realities which had been presented to and understood by him, however, counted for nothing in the eyes of the intensely conservative Bhuddist hierarchy, in which, during the absence of the Tali-Lama, the government of the country had been vested; and only the advent of the Chinese revolution and the consequent dispersal of the Chinese troops in Tibet enabled His Holiness to return and to deal with the malcontents with a stern hand. The struggle between the new and the old had, in grim earnest, begun; murders on one side were revenged by executions on the other, while attempts to introduce British machinery and British-trained Tibetan engineers were met by the destruction of the machinery and of its escort. This was the situation which Herr Strasser found in 1925, when the country seems to have been, as he describes it, in a state of blind and bewildered panic; as to future developments, the only certainty seems to be that any further attempts at westernisation will be met by the priests, and consequently by the people, with an attitude of uncompromising hostility.

INDIAN PROBLEMS.

[illegible]

One People or Many?

[illegible] The book, which discusses lucidly the various forms of federal government, may be commended to all who are seriously interested in the deliberations of the Indian Round Table Conference on this important subject.

Quack Doctors.

The opening chapter of "Stark India" is headed "The Land of Sex-Mad Millions," and a substantial portion of the book deals in somewhat dramatic language with evils which were less flamboyantly discussed by Miss Mayo in "Mother India." This aspect of Indian life may be over-emphasised, and there is undoubtedly an awakening among enlightened Indians to the imperative necessity of doing considerably more to abolish customs and practices which are inconsistent with humanity and injurious to the public welfare. The horrible methods of quack doctors, which Mr Pinch denounces, are a matter of very serious concern to millions of people, and in his chapter on the presentation of highly undesirable films in cinema theatres he touches upon a matter that cannot be ignored. The statement that the Government of India "starves" the Public Health services suggests that Mr. Pinch has no close acquaintance with Indian administration, seeing that public health and sanitation are subjects which for years past have been in the hands of provincial governments.

NATURAL HISTORY AND SPORT.

"Memories of Four-Score Years Less Two." By Abel Chapman, M.A. With a Memoir by George Bolam. (Gurney and Jackson. 21s.)

"The Life of the Sea-Trout, especially in Scottish Waters; with Chapters on the Reading and Measuring of Scales." By G. H. Nall, M.A. (Seeley, Service and Co. 21s.)

Reviewed by H. C. MINCHIN.

Introduced by an appreciative friend, the last gleanings of the veteran naturalist and sportsman, Abel Chapman, who died last year, are of a discursive and far-flung character. A devotee of the fact, and contemptuous of what he called "purely academic science," Chapman acquired first-hand knowledge of the ways of beasts and birds in many lands, particularly in Spain, various parts of Africa, and the Northumbrian moors, amid which he made his home. His style was homespun, but shot with gusto, and he could be very tart on occasion; the chapter he devotes to his lengthy experience as a reviewer strikingly recalls the reminiscent manner of Professor Saintsbury. He did not wholly resist that tendency to cataloguing which besets the naturalist turned writer, and which may easily weary readers who do not happen to be specialists; but these pages are starred with many lively and illuminating passages, such as the one in which he seeks an answer to the question, How do the large mammals which inhabit the Sahara, antelopes and others, quench their thirst?

A Miracle of Nature.

Chapman reached the almost incredible conclusion that they never drink at all. He originally made the statement, he says, in fear and trembling, but adds that it has not been challenged. One inference he draws from it is that the absence of drinking-water in deserts must not be assumed to be a bar to the passage over them of migrating birds. The coloured plate of Addax antelopes—one of the many singularly beautiful illustrations contributed by his friend, Mr. W. H. Riddell—shows creatures that are obviously prosperous and well-liking, though their food is but sapless herbage, and drink they have none. There are other species of deer, according to the author's observation, which consume water freely when it is available, but can dispense with it in their wanderings over arid areas. Yet in general he admits, speaking as an eye-witness in concealment, that even the more timorous denizens of the African wild will not deny themselves the satisfaction of their thirst, so long as there is a water-hole accessible, though it entail the risk of their lives at the fangs of the powerful neighbours whose natural prey they are.

The Sea-Trout.

Mr. Nall's monograph on the sea-trout will appeal to men of Chapman's type, for it is essentially factual. He disputes, however, Chapman's belief that the North Tyne contains two distinct kinds of migratory trout, the bull-trout and the sea-trout proper, for his researches have convinced him that the supposed difference does not exist. He would eliminate the term "bull-trout" altogether. In a modest preface, Mr. Nall makes no claim to finality, but the time had certainly come when the fruits of so much study should be offered to the angling world. The reading and measuring of fish scales is, it must be allowed, an unfamiliar subject, and of comparatively recent date, this book being dedicated to the memory of H. W. Johnston, "father of salmon scale readers," who died as recently as 1921. It is a method by which the stage of growth reached by the fish, together with its age, can be detected, something in the same way as a tree's age can be gauged by the number of its rings. In following chapters the life and habits of the sea-trout are discussed and explained. Mr. Nall's own explorations have been principally in Scotland; but scrutiny of collections of scales from elsewhere has enabled him to arrive at provisional conclusions concerning the sea-trout of other countries.

BOOKS & WRITERS.

A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY

THE MEMOIRS OF RAYMOND POINCARÉ. Translated by Sir George Arthur. (Heinemann, 21s.)

A HISTORY OF SPANISH CIVILISATION. By Rafael Altamira. (Constable, 21s.)

WHISTLER: THE FRIEND. By Elizabeth Robins Pennell. (Lippincott, 10s. 6d.)

DIARY OF A PROVINCIAL LADY. By E. M. Delafield. (Macmillan, 7s. 6d.)

While publishers are already sending me their programmes for 1931 the booksellers are busy selling the books of 1930. In this connection I would draw attention to the new edition in ten volumes of "Chambers's Encyclopaedia." Priding myself with a fairly extensive knowledge of books of reference, I have no hesitation in saying that "Chambers's" is out of sight the best book of the kind I know. What I don't know is how people can get on without it.

* * *

Few members of the German Imperial family have carried into retirement so much affection and respect as the Crown Prince's Consort, Cecile. It is, therefore, good to hear that she has written her memoirs, to be published by Mr. Gollancz, which will touch Russia as well as Germany, for her mother, Anastasia, was a Russian grand-duchess.

* * *

Many theatrical and literary interests are sure to be touched on in Lillah McCarthy's autobiography, which Mr. Gollancz announces, for she has met an unusually large number of clever people in many walks of life, including Swinburne, Hardy, George Meredith, Henry James, and Rodin.

* * *

The memoirs of Paul Poiret, which Mr. Gollancz will have ready next month, should make lively reading, for I hear they give a cynical and intimate picture of his period. There is, however, little in the book about dress designing, though I have no doubt he could be very illuminating on the subject of man's influence on women's clothes.

* * *

Sir David Hunter-Blair, who was Abbot of Fort Augustus, has had so many experiences that he is following up the autobiographies he gave us in 1919 and 1922 with "More Memories and Musings," a Burns, Oates book. Sir David has an extraordinary "fouth" of knowledge, as his countrymen would say. I wonder if the Abbot knows that there is a great deal about his banking kinsmen in Principal Rait's new book on the Union Bank of Scotland?

* * *

A feature of Philip Allan's new list is the number of women writing for his house, headed by the Duchess of Atholl, who deals with "Women in Public Life," which discusses, inter alia, the question of alternate or "companionate" marriage. Dame Edith Lyttelton's book, "The Super-Conscious Mind," shows that the mind has super-conscious as well as sub-conscious qualities, which would account for many curious things. Then Miss Lesley N. Smith, in "Four Years Out of Life," deals with the war, in which she nursed.

* * *

It looks as if the Hungarians, under their political pressure, are, like the Germans, to turn to literature. Thus Ferenc Mora, the author of an epic of the soil called "Song of the Wheatfield," which Philip Allan will publish, is the curator of the city museum of the town of Szeged, and one of the champions of Liberal thought in Hungary.

* * *

Mr. Arthur R. Gardner, who has written "Prisoner at the Bar" for Philip Allan, was for two years a prison visitor at Wormwood Scrubs, and for a longer period he has felt at home in criminal courts and the underworld. He dedicates his book to his friends—"Straight, Crooked, and Composite."

* * *

Dr. James Mackinnon, the Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Edinburgh, whose books have hitherto dealt with secular subjects, has written for Longmans "The Historic Jesus," the standpoint of which is that of the independent thinker trying to apprehend the revelations of God and the Divine in the human, reflected in the unique life which the Gospels record. January will also bring us from Methuen Canon Bindley's "Religious Thought in Palestine in the Time of Christ."

* * *

Publishers are quick nowadays to find a topical peg for their publications. Thus, in view of the report on capital punishment, Mr. Humphrey Toulmin draws attention again to Mr. Charles Duff's recent "Handbook on Hanging," which has already been brought out in America and is about to be issued in Germany.

* * *

If heredity counts, Miss Cicely Farmer's travel book, "Dragons and a Bell," which Faber and Faber will give us, should have distinction, for she is a great-great-grandniece of Susan Ferrier, the great-great-granddaughter of Christopher North, the great-grandniece of Professor Ferrier, the philosopher, and the granddaughter of Sir Alexander Grant, Principal of Edinburgh University, who translated Aristotle.

* * *

Elkin Mathews and Marrot point out that in our review last Sunday of "One Family," the book is stated to be by Major Creighton, from the film by Owen Rutter. This is incorrect, as the book is written by Owen Rutter from the film of Major Creighton.

J. M. B.

MR. WOLFE AGAIN.

"Portrait of Heine." Translations by Humbert Wolfe. (Cresset Press. 42s.)

"Early Poems." By Humbert Wolfe. (Blackwell. 6s.)

When for a moment Mr. Wolfe checks the flow of new verse we may still be sure that he will not leave his readers wholly empty; for there are always translations to be done; there are always anthologies to be made; above all, there are always prefaces to be written. And so this autumn and winter have not lacked their Wolfeana. We have had our "Winter Miscellany," with an introduction by Mr. Wolfe; now we can turn to "Portrait of Heine," a limited edition of translations from a poet Mr. Wolfe admires, imitates and frequently invokes; we can even turn to "Early Poems," a one-volume edition of his two first books of verse, "London Sonnets" and "Shylock Reasons With Mr. Chesterton," issued with an apologetic-commendatory preface.

No, his readers will not be disappointed; it is the familiar touch, whether Mr. Wolfe writes of Heine or of himself. The translations have the gallant disregard of accuracy that we have learned to know; this verse, for instance:

Die Lotosblume ängstigt
Sich vor der Sonne Pracht,
Und mit gesenktem Haupte
Erwartet sie träumend die Nacht

becomes in English:

In twilight meditation—
a pale and palsied nun—
the lotus loathes the splendid
address of the sun.

The preface to the juvenilia has the exuberance in metaphor and the reference to Pagans characteristic of all Mr. Wolfe's prose. What more can one say? Mr. Wolfe suggests a few improvements to the Shylock poem, but does not, finally, make them. "Hopeless," he concludes, "to seek to recapture the mood of the author, long since a quiet ghost, and almost impertinent to temper with my hardly acquired experience his first impenitent thrill." His admirers will probably agree that juvenilia should not be re-written; in any case they will recognise that they have in these two books the essence of Mr. Wolfe's work.

THE GALLERIES

A GROUP EXHIBITION.

"TRUTH TO INDIVIDUAL VISION."

By FRANK RUTTER.

According to a phrase in the catalogue the eleven painters and sculptors holding a group exhibition at the Goupil Gallery claim nothing in common beyond "Truth and sincerity to individual vision and individual conception." That is a broad basis to work upon, and makes for plenty of variety. Of the eight painters the best known is Miss Ethel Walker, whose contributions are characteristic examples of her deft impressionism and charm of colour. Hooper Rowe shows a talent for design and a rich medley of colour in "Broadwall, E.C." and "Night in Castle Street." Mr. R. O. Dunlop appears to use the palette-knife exclusively, and churns the pigment on to the canvas until the surface of his painting resembles a foaming whirlpool. Greater ease of handling is observable in "The Green Necklace."

H. S. Williamson is the most obviously unconventional member of the party. He has leanings towards "sur-realisme," and has been influenced by Chirico. Like Metzinger, he finds satisfaction in a liberal use of vermilion. He has nothing very new to say, but his smaller, more realistic paintings have a naïve charm. H. E. du Plessis has an eye for pretty colour, but he fumbles a little when it comes to composition. The immediate foreground of some of his pictures is left emptyish.

R. Emslie's paintings hark back to another epoch. They hint at Shannon's blue-green arrangements of pallid nudes in swirling seas, and seem out-of-place in this exhibition. Florence M. Asher strives after originality—which need not be taken as adverse criticism, for any effort to find an individual mode of self-expression can be so described. At present, this artist's work shows a disconcerting blend of different styles. Simplification and verisimilitude are attempted side by side, and the result is unsatisfactory. Robert Medley is undisciplined and uncertain of himself. He does not know what exactly he wishes to do in paint. He has a charming colour sense, however, and a talent for devising effective decorations, and his exhibits are very pleasant to look at, but a little empty in content.

NAN WEST.

In the small gallery adjoining, Miss Nan West is exhibiting a number of delicate, pale-tinted water-colours. This artist's colour range is small, but attractive in a muted way, and subtle. She eschews the broadly decorative, never uses pure colour, but gets her effects by transposing all her subjects—whether café or street scene, interior or landscape—into a simple key of olive-green and biscuit. There is something pleasantly personal in her art, but seen in bulk it lacks variety.

Flower-paintings by Hamish Paterson are on view at the Paterson Gallery in Old Bond Street. Sheer delight in the beauty of flowers, one is made to feel, is responsible for all these fresh-coloured paintings. It is in his "white" schemes that Mr. Paterson shows the greatest artistry. "Daisy Chrysanthemums," pinkish-silver in tint, with a liquid dark background, and "White Stocks" are two of his most felicitous compositions. Lack of invention in design and a somewhat banal sense of composition are observable, however, in many of his canvases, and for this reason the exhibition as a whole tends to monotony.

A VERSATILE WRITER.

"More Stories." By Barry Pain. (Werner Laurie. 5s. 6d.)

There have been few more versatile writers than Barry Pain, though chance labelled him a humorist and the name clung to him to the day of his death. This omnibus volume, a successor to "Humorous Stories," contains a surprising variety of moods, from the purely nonsensical fun of "In a Canadian Canoe" to the pathos of "Bill," the story of a boy whom the gods loved and so took him quickly out of a sordid world. "The Memoirs of Constantine Dix," "The Exiles of Faloo," and "An Exchange of Souls" are among the contents of this book, which gives singularly good value at the price.

SPAIN OF THE PAST.

"An Hour of Spain." By Azorin. (Routledge. 6s.)

"Is not this the first time in the history of letters," asks Professor Salvador de Madariaga, in his preface, "when an Academic speech is found worth translating?" But, as he goes on to say, nobody but the master known as Azorin would have conceived such a reception speech. Beginning by picturing his predecessor in a salon bowing over the hand of a beautiful woman, he suddenly lets his imagination take flight. "Are we in Spain of the twentieth century or of a century gone by?" he asks. "What is time and what is eternity?" And he transports us to the Spain of the latter part of the sixteenth century, and shows us courtiers and monks, the theatre and the castle, the almond trees of Cataluña, and the trembling hands of an old inquisitor who has found Lutheran writings in the possession of his only son. It is an exercise in the evocation of the past which one would call brilliant, were not the word too hard for the delicacy of Azorin's lovely little work. The book has been exquisitely translated by Miss Alice Raleigh.

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI.

"Christina Rossetti." By Dorothy M. Stuart. (Macmillan. 5s.)

Miss Stuart has brought to her study of Christina Rossetti the acuteness of perception and clarity of thought which were apparent in her book on Horace Walpole. So much has been written about Christina on the occasion of her centenary that this is scarcely the time to elaborate on the story of that virginal yet strangely passionate life. It is a life which Miss Stuart describes with a great deal of sympathy, carefully balancing the importance in the story of ancestry and environment, the Pre-Raphaelite movement and the relationships with Collinson and Cayley. An excellent little book.

The Shepherds.

By NINA CONDRON.

The shepherds knew no fear of that lone night,
Or the swart shade, where lurking beasts of prey
Eyed balefully the flocks all-stilly white
What in the fold meekly imprisoned lay.
No fear had they of midnight's icy breath
Groaning about the trees its tale of death,
Danger and dark and threat of evil men
Who roam to rob at night; these were their ken,
Their own familiar grace, their homely hell.
But when the voice of one sweet angel fell
Upon their ears; when shining Love drew near,
Then sore dismayed their hearts did fail for fear.
In sinful night their courage could abound;
But glory sent them crouching to the ground.

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AMERICAN BRIDGE.

HOW IT STRIKES AN ENGLISHMAN.

MORE INTENSIVE STUDY.

By COLONEL G. G. J. WALSHE.

Colonel Walshe has just returned from a two months' visit to the States, where he has been in contact with the leading players in New York and Washington.

Bridge is now as international as finance, and Bridge as played in America is of very special interest to us, as the initiative in the development of the game has for some years past been taken by the U.S.A. They play duplicate matches there continually, where new theories can be put to the test and thrown out or accepted. The educational value of these matches is very marked. They have also a strong standardising effect on the game. Apart from these matches, the study of the game is generally much more intensive in America than here. There are many times more Bridge players there than in the rest of the world. Many travel and have a strong missionary influence in spreading the new developments of the game.

Mr. E. V. Lucas is on holiday, but will resume his weekly articles on January 4.

In view of these facts, I spent some weeks recently in New York and Washington in the study of Bridge conditions, and met most of the prominent authorities on the game. I was also accorded the privileges of the leading Bridge clubs: the Whist Club, the Knickerbocker Whist Club, and the Cavendish Club. The Whist Club is the (law-giving) Portland Club of the American Bridge world. The Knickerbocker Whist Club (also a purely Bridge club) comes next in importance. The Cavendish Club is a mixed club on the lines of Crockford's or Almack's. The points played are roughly the same as in the corresponding London clubs. The Whist Club plays practically the same (rather high) points as the Portland Club. The Cavendish Club points are similar to some points played at Crockford's and Almack's. In their clubs Americans are just as noted for their hospitality as in the homes.

Actual Play.

In actual play there is little to choose between a game in America and one in England. The American player is quicker. At home our women play more quickly than our men. In the U.S.A. all play quickly. The American is a better bidder, but the Englishman plays his cards better though he is weaker in echoing. Bridge in private circles is very much the same in both countries except that in America there is greater concentration and less gossip. Small talk is, however, not altogether absent. On one afternoon in Washington an American lady held up the game while she described how the people of Washington were offended at the British lions in front of our new Embassy there having their tongues out at them. I soothed her by suggesting it was an appropriate *geste* in a "dry" country.

Valuation.

They are very well instructed in valuation over there. Even the most ordinary player counts very accurately his (or her) high-card values. As with us one occasionally comes across partners with strange ideas on valuation, but these are never Americans. A particular case I remember was that of a foreign diplomat who agreed to play the strong "Two" bid on five Quick Tricks. A moment later he dealt and bid "Two Spades." He eventually played the hand in a high contract with disastrous results, and when his partner inquired where his five Quick Tricks were, he replied, "Why, I had the five honours in Spades!"

Bidding Systems.

I found the "Club" convention in use in the Whist Club and in some private houses. It is not in use in other New York clubs, and is, I hear, very little used west of New York. The strong "Two" bid is played at the Cavendish Club, where it seems to have originated under the guiding influence of Mrs. Kerwin, who describes it in her book, "How to Bid at Contract Bridge." The "Challenge" bid (of Mr. Sydney Lenz) is used at the Knickerbocker Whist Club, where they also use the "one-over-one" approach-forcing bid of Mr. George Reith, which is little known in this country. Everybody plays some bidding system, and everybody has learnt to value a hand for his particular system.

The fact that there has been no general agreement on bidding systems is not nearly so important as the fact that there is fairly general agreement on many underlying principles. I refer to those principles which accentuate the differences between Contract and Auction, e.g., (1) the us of a "No-trump" bid in response as a caution or even a danger signal, or (2) the use of a jump bid in a second suit over a partner's original suit bid as a forcing bid, or (3) the use of a jump bid in the same suit as a maximum effort and not as a forcing signal. The American understands these principles better and is ahead of us in collecting the Contract atmosphere.

Education.

In one matter there is a great contrast between American and English players. The former take far more instruction than our players. There is a veritable army of Bridge teachers all over America. The American is willing to pay handsomely for a lesson, and the lesson will probably have a definite object in view, such as to prevent the recurrence of a blunder committed the night before. Perhaps the strongest characteristic of the citizens of that very progressive country is that they take immediate action to correct a fault and to effect an improvement. Players are not content with committing the same blunder day after day, but forthwith take steps to put matters right. It is a good system, too, to learn one thing definitely at a time. There is then a good chance of holding on to it permanently. On the other hand, it is a worthless system to be suddenly crammed with a set of Bridge points, and be unable to remember any one sufficiently well to make use of it later

While American players are more educated in the game than ours, their general standard appears to be hardly any better than ours. If we concentrated on improving our valuation of hands, I am convinced that we would, as a nation, be easily the better card players. It is largely a matter of education in valuation, without which it is hopeless to expect accuracy in any bid after the original bid.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

No Taxation, No Representation.

Sir,—With reference to Mr. Harold Cox's admirable article in your last issue, in which he says that there should be "no representation without taxation," I would suggest that the Conservative Party—when they return to power—should take their courage in both hands and, anyhow, disfranchise those who are actually in receipt of poor-law relief.

JOHN F. E. CROWDER.
Church Crookham, Hants.

The Trade Disputes Act.

Sir,—May I point out the error of writing about the Trades Disputes Act. It is a very common mistake, owing, no doubt, to trade unions being frequently called trades unions. Even the "Trades Union Congress" has officially adopted the misnomer. But if you will refer to the Act of Parliament, you will see that the mistake has not been made in it.

Albert Hall Mansions, S.W. L. B. PAGE.

The Loss of the Birkenhead.

Sir,—Another poem dealing with this stirring episode of the sea was that written by Dr. John A. Goodchild. It begins:—

All was silence. All was sleep.
Night lay pillowed on the deep.

Palmer's Green, N. A. J. W.

Away from Fogland.

Sir,—It may be of interest to many who have suffered ill-health in consequence of the atrocious fogs of late that here in Tenby, Pembrokeshire, brilliant sunshine has prevailed, over nineteen hours recorded for last week. The sunsets, too, are a delightful spectacle, and as I write to-night, the sky is clear, with twinkling stars and brilliant moonshine. What would not Londoners give to change with us just while their Christmas shopping is in full swing!

Tenby. MAY L. MEREDITH.

Mr. Frank Brangwyn.

Sir,—In reference to the letter you publish from a correspondent regretting the poor representation of Mr. Frank Brangwyn in our national art collections, it may be of interest to state that the Hamilton Bequest (of which I am a trustee) has acquired in the past year or two for the City of Glasgow's permanent art collection two examples (paintings) of this artist's work. These are "Arab Musicians," purchased in 1928, and "The Crucifixion," purchased in 1930.

GEORGE B. PRIMROSE.
Pollokshields, Glasgow.

A Tactful Bishop.

Sir,—Bishop Samuel Wilberforce may also be reckoned in any list of tactful bishops. When he visited one of his former parishes and found his memory respecting some of his former flock rather hazy, he was accustomed to bridge the difficulty by inquiring anxiously: "And how is the old complaint?"

But it is not to bishops alone that this valuable gift has been granted, as witness the story of Lord Beaconsfield, to whom an author sent a copy of a book. After thanking him, the Prime Minister continued: "I shall lose no time in reading your book."

Wimbledon, S.W. STEPHEN SIMEON.

Greek into Latin.

Sir,—Mr. Weatherhead suggests that someone might attempt a Latin version of his Greek epigram on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He may, therefore, be interested in the following:—

Carpere Mars somnos quartum me iussit in annum.
Longius hinc tellus dum peregrina tenet;
Sextus adest annus; reduci mihi patria tandem
En, instauratas commodat exsequias.
Conspicui funus decorandum munere busti
Deferor in sacram non sine laude domum;
Nec locus invidiaest; aequa tot morte perempti
Novimus ex aequo quisque merere decus.

Liverpool. ETHEL MARY STEUART.

Days and Dates.

Sir,—I came across, in an ancient arithmetic, twelve easily memorised words used for the months, whose initials in conjunction with the Dominical letter quoted in calendars indicate on which day of the week the date falls in this or other years:—

At Dover Dwell George Brown, Esquire,
Good Christopher Finch And David Friar.

The Dominical letter for this year is E, so that the first of December is Monday.

The day of the Battle of Waterloo, fought on Sunday, June 18, 1815, can be verified by the method. The number of daily changes, including those for leap years, is 143, which, when divided by the number of days in a week, leaves three changes, so that the Dominical letter for 1815 is A, which indicates, in conjunction with the initial of the sixth word, that the first of June was Thursday.

Addiscombe. J. LAPAM KEENE.

Lord Beaconsfield's Birth.

Sir,—Lord Beaconsfield, it is well known, died on April 19, but few people are aware that he was born on December 21, 1804. The record will be found in the register of the synagogue in Bevis Marks.

Shortly after resigning his membership as one of the congregation of Bevis Marks Synagogue, Isaac Disraeli, at the instigation, it is alleged, of Samuel Rogers, the poet, gave his consent to his son Benjamin being admitted into the Christian Church, and Lord Beaconsfield was baptised at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on July 31, 1817, the officiating clergyman being the Rev. J. Thimbleby.

It will be fifty years on April 19, 1931, since Lord Beaconsfield's death. The Primrose League, founded in his memory, will celebrate its jubilee in 1932.

REGINALD BENNETT.
Victoria Street, S.W.

Quaint Inn Signs.

Sir,—Probably one of the most unintelligible signs in England is (or was recently) to be seen on a quaint old house on the Bristol quays, which bore the legend: "The Landogger Boat."

"Landogger" is Llandogo (the Church of St. Dochy), the highest tidal parish on the Wye, and this inn was the house of call for the crews of the timber barges (locally called "trows") which plied between the two places.

I am old enough to remember these boats well—in fact, it was our boast that our claret never saw a railway, coming as it did from Bordeaux to Bristol, and thence by "trow" to our own farm waggon. The owners of these boats were always called "Captain" the last being Captain Harry Williams.

IVREA.
New Oxford and Cambridge Club, W.

Revising History.

Sir,—In your interesting leaderette of last Sunday's date you quote two or three instances where the facts of history, as taught us in our schooldays, might be revised, as for instance that Ethelred was not always "unready" and that George Washington was not the destructive wielder of a little axe. With these two cases I am more or less in agreement, and you might have taken other examples where our history might be revised, and I should still be with you. Thus I am quite ready to believe that King John was quite a good King, and an example to all his successors, that the Duke of Clarence was not drowned in a butt of Malmsey wine, or that the Duke of Wellington never said "Up, Guards, and at 'em."

But as a Somerset man I must differ from you in wishing to make it clear that Alfred the Great was a good cook. Have we not on record the actual words uttered to him by the swineherd's wife at Athelney, when she found her cakes utterly ruined:—

Ca'sn thee mind the ke-aks, man,
An' doossen zee 'em burn?
I'm boun' thee's eat 'em vast enough
As soon as 'tis thee turn.

Southfields, S.W. F. FRENCH.

Will "Tientsinner," of Wimbledon, send his full address, as we have a letter for him?

A Nautical Riddle.

From the MAYOR OF SALTASH.

Sir,—"New College, Oxford," misquotes the sea conundrum, whose origin he desires to learn. It should run:—

The wind was West, and West sailed we;
Both sheets were aft. How could that be?

The words I have italicised (for which he substitutes "If this was so") emphasise, of course, the apparent difficulty of the manœuvre. I regret that I cannot suggest the origin of the catch, with which I have been familiar since I first went to sea, in the early 'eighties, and which I had long before heard quoted by my father, a naval officer who fought in the Crimea.

W. P. DRURY, Lieut.-Col. Royal Marines.
Saltash.

Sir,—The correct wording of the riddle is as follows:—

The wind was West, and West steered we:
With all sails full, how could that be?

I first heard this some fifty years ago when apprentice on a wooden sailing barque on a voyage that lasted over three years.

Hove. SHELLBACK.

Sir,—I remember two nautical riddles which we all knew well in the last of the sailing frigates, H.M.S. Newcastle, in 1879. "New College, Oxford," has not got his quite right. It should be:—

The wind was West, and West steered we,
Both sheets aft, how could that be?

Another one was:—

I was sitting on a railing,
And I saw a ship a-sailing,
But What was the captain's name?
I've told you once, and I'll tell you again,
But What was the captain's name?

(Watt was the captain's name.)

Chelsea, S.W. M. K.

From ADMIRAL PUREY-CUST.

Sir,—"New College, Oxford," misses the point in his version of the nautical riddle. It should read, viz.:—

The wind was West and West steered we,
Our sails were full, how could that be?

Highgate, N. H. E. PUREY-CUST.

Sir,—I think "New College, Oxford," is quite right in attributing his couplet to the sailing-ship era, and no doubt it was made up by some sailor. There was usually plenty of time when at the wheel in fine weather. I heard it myself in a sailing ship, something as follows:—

Aft was the sheet,
Aft the sea,
West was the wind
And West steered we.

Nice. JAMES CUTHBERT.

[Replies have also been received from Captain Colin Nicholson (Fenchurch Street, E.C.) and Lieut.-Colonel G. Merritt (Uppingham).]

"Ich Habe Gelebt."

Sir,—The source of the lines—

Ich habe genossen das irdische Glück,
Ich habe gelebt und geliebet,

about which "G. M. S." inquires in your last issue, is Schiller's "Des Mädchens Klage," a poem of four five-line stanzas. The first and second stanzas also appear in "Wallenstein" ("Die Piccolomini," iii., vii: "Thekla spielt und singt").

The second stanza, from which the lines are taken, reads as follows:—

Das Herz ist gestorben, die Welt ist leer,
Und weiter gibt sie dem Wunsche nichts mehr,
Du Heilige, rufe dein Kind zurück!
Ich habe genossen das irdische Glück,
Ich habe gelebt und geliebet.

It will be noticed that "G. M. S." has misquoted. KENNETH B. SCHOFIELD.

Eccles, Lancs.

Sir,—"G. M. S.'s" quotation is from a short poem of Schiller's entitled "Des Mädchens Klage," and should apparently run as follows:—

Ich habe genossen das irdische Glück,
Ich habe gelebt und geliebet.

The idea of the poem seems to be that when "plaisir d'amour" is over, "chagrin d'amour" is the best comfort. The sentiment is very much like that expressed in "The Heart Bowed Down," and opposed to the idea of "nessun maggior dolore," and "a sorrow's crown of sorrow"

The motif is repeated in Thekla's epilogue to "Wallenstein," thus:—

Hab' ich nicht beschlossen und geendet,
Hab' ich nicht geliebet und gelebt?

"Ich habe geliebet und gelebt" is, I think, the usual form of quotation.

Rendlesham Road, E. J. F. CLAYTON.

[Replies have also been received from S. K. Asprey (Beckenham), E. B. Harris (Rutland House, W.), Jean H. Farquharson (Pollokshields), the Hon. Lady Barlow (Stockport), F. E. Hamel (Hitchin), Grace Broome-Giles (Folkestone), H. G. Beaumont (Teddington), R. M. Davies (Tunbridge Wells), M. D. P. (Ascot), W. Thomlinson (West Hartlepool), M. F. Munster (S. Kensington), F. Renfield (London, S.W.), H. W. Greene (Bures), Dr. W. R. Bett (Bedford Park, W.) S. M. Schwab (Hampstead, N.W.), K. M. Fitzgerald (Shoreham), Edith Johnson (Shrewsbury), R. D. O. (Lancaster Road, N.W.), F. W. D'Evelyn (Budleigh Salterton), Violet Tootal (Upper Phillimore Gardens, W.) A Lover of Quotations (Hyde Park, W.) R. Rosen (Maida Vale, W.), B. M. Raymond (Kingston-on-Thames), J. Rowland Hopwood (Northwood) James Strong (Trowbridge), Edward Bensly (Borth), Ethel Ashburnham (Dorchester) G. Blessett (Exeter), Colin Cameron (Chippenham), H. S. S. (Bridport), E. Eckersley (Rugby), E. Torday (The Grove, S.W.), A. M. (Mansfield St., W.), C. E. Walker (Bedford Hill, S.W.), H. G. Sworder (St. Kerverne), Mrs. Mabler (Bradford), and J. Wallace (Bristol).]

Whistler and Chelsea.

Sir,—In answer to "Y. E. N. (Nottingham)," the White House in Tite Street, where Whistler lived when at the height of his career, is the last house on the left-hand side as approached from Queen's Road.

It passed, after the Ruskin trial, into the hands of one of "les ennemis," Mr. 'Arry Quilter. After his return from Venice Whistler is said to have lived next door, and to have displayed 'Arry at 'ome to his friends by an ingenious system of mirrors.

His other house, the Tower House, is on the right-hand side. Hither the bridal couple repaired after Whistler's marriage in 1888; it is recorded that they ate the wedding dinner seated on packing-cases, and at ten o'clock considered starting for Paris for their honeymoon.

But the White House was the only real residence Whistler ever had; distinctive, individual, in his favourite colour scheme, black and white, it is still a memorial to this prince of eccentricities.

Sutton, Surrey. HILARY KERR WIGGS.

Sir,—Whistler's House in Tite Street, Chelsea, is still in existence, and is known as the White House. Although it was built for Whistler, he occupied it for a few months only. Cheyne Walk appears to have been his favourite abode, for it was at No. 101 that he first lived in Chelsea; at No. 96 he lived for twelve years, and at No. 74 he died in 1903.

Chelsea, S.W. D. M. SHIPMAN.

Good Physicians.

Sir,—The translations of the couplet from the "Regimen Sanitatis," which have appeared in your correspondence columns, lack the neatness of the original Latin, which, in prose, is better represented thus:—

If you would do without doctors. make your doctors
These three: Happy Mind, Rest, and Moderate Diet.

This bit of wisdom, which became proverbial, is but one of the many sensible notions in the "Regimen" that made it so popular that it spread over the whole of the Western world. After the eleventh century hundreds of manuscript copies circulated, and up to the nineteenth no fewer than 240 printed editions.

Leatherhead. S. G. B. STUBBS.

Gaelic or Erse?

Sir,—None of your correspondents has quoted from Burns's "Address to the De'il":—

But a' your doings to rehearse,
Your wily snares an' fechtin' fierce,
Sin' that day Michael did you pierce
Down to this time,
Wadding a Lallan tongue or Erse,
In prose or rhyme.

Burns is obviously referring to Lowland Scots and Highland Gaelic, the two tongues spoken in Scotland in his day.

H. F. MITCHELL.
Caterham-on-the-Hill, Surrey.

From the Sea to Peking.

Sir,—Access to Peking from the sea, of which "H. B." inquires, has varied with the progress of communications.

Lord Macartney, in 1793, and Lord Amherst, in 1816, with the First and Second Embassies, travelled in government junks from Taku (the seaport at the river mouth) to Tungchow, thence by road to Peking. The distances were: Taku to Tientsin by the Hai Ho (Sea River) fifty-five miles; Tientsin to Tungchow, by the Pei Ho (North River, sometimes called the Imperial Canal), about eighty miles; Tungchow to Peking by the old stone road, about thirteen miles.

Lord Elgin, in 1858, forced the passage of the Hai Ho, and sailed his gunboats to Tientsin, after much difficulty owing to sharp bends and shallows. One of his smaller craft, the Kestrel, drawing five feet, could get only ten miles up the Pei Ho, and turned back.

The Hai Ho was opened to ship traffic from 1860 onwards. Until 1889 the trip from Taku to Tientsin was made invariably by boat. In that year, what is now called the Peking-Mukden Railway opened a line from the Northern coal mines at Tongshan, via Tongku (adjacent to Taku) to Tientsin. Travellers then sometimes transhipped at the river mouth and journeyed to Tientsin by rail.

The trip from Tientsin to Peking continued to be made by road, or by the Pei Ho in junks, until the railway was extended to Fengtai, five or six miles from Peking (direct) in 1894. Shortly afterwards the line was taken in a semi-circle to Machiaopu, a little nearer the main gates of the city. A small electric railway, or tram line, connected with the Chien Men, or front gate of the Forbidden City.

The line was double-track, and after its destruction in 1900 was rebuilt single-track, and extended through the outer wall right up along the inner wall to the "Water Gate" leading into that portion of the city occupied by the Legations.

It should be noted that the Hai Ho has been incorrectly called the Pei Ho between Tientsin and the sea. Tientsin is the confluence of a number of streams, including the Grand Canal, which have undergone a great deal of conservancy work in the course of centuries. The Pei Ho is, more or less, an artificial stream, as its native name "Imperial Canal" signifies. They are all merely tributaries of the Hai Ho.

Gloucester Road, S.W. O. D. R.

Sir,—The letters regarding the above which appeared in your last issue are exceedingly interesting to those who like myself have long taken an interest in China, but I think "Tientsinner" understates the distance from Tungchow to Peking, which, I fancy, is nearly double the distance he mentions. What I cannot recollect is whether at the beginning of the 'eighties ships discharged their passengers and cargo at Tientsin on to wharves and quays, or by sampans and lighters. Can anyone enlighten me?

HARVEY PRENDERGAST.
Blackheath.

National Economy.

Sir,—Mr. Harold Cox's article on the Economy debate indicates how completely the House of Commons has reversed its original rôle of guardian of the public purse. Mr. Cox voices the opinion of every responsible citizen when he asserts that the essential fault of the present system is the failure to link taxation with representation.

The reform which he advocates—a universal income-tax—has, however, little chance of receiving the support of the 23,000,000 electors who are at present exempt from paying the tax. Until we can abolish Universal Suffrage there can be no question of universal income-tax.

But is it not still within the realm of "practical politics" to insist that the receipt of the dole shall be regarded as a disqualification for the vote? I fancy that quite a considerable proportion of the electorate might be induced to admit the logic of this.

Mickleham. TAXPAYER.

Sir,—Your timely stand in defence of public economy is all the more valuable in that rash expenditure of public money is no longer the prerogative of Socialists and Radicals.

It is a distressing fact that many borough and county councils in which Conservatives predominate are increasing the number and salaries of their officers and employees in a quite indiscriminate manner. The slightest increase in the work of a department often results in unnecessary additions to the staff, and these officers are frequently retained when the temporary rush has been expended.

Though we may hope that this state of affairs is not too prevalent, it is sufficiently in evidence to be disquieting.

London, S.W. INCOME-TAX PAYER.

War in the Air.

Sir,—May I again occupy some of your space? I think "Taffrail" did not realise that my letter was a reply to statements made in a letter to the SUNDAY TIMES, and I was not writing an article on war strategy, which cannot be compressed into a letter to the Press, but I will answer his criticisms in order.

(1) If the war is further afield than the last one, the principal points of danger will still be where the convoys are nearing the focal points—viz., the entrances to the English Channel and the Irish Sea.

(2) The bombing of London also included the destruction of the supply ships in, and storehouses on, the banks of the Thames. I disagree with the statement of "Taffrail" that the submarines dislike heavier-than-air craft less than the system of convoy, escorted by destroyers, etc. They attack the latter and avoid the former.

I understood the value of escorts for many years before the war, and in 1911 wrote a paper at the request of the Secretary of State for War, who was the chairman of the Imperial Defence Committee, in which two of the principal points were: (a) In a war with Germany destruction of trade and communications will be the main factor; (b) the Admiralty must direct trade routes and have a system of convoys.

MARK KERR, Admiral.
Draycott Avenue, S.W.

The Savoy Operas.

Sir,—I am compiling a bibliography of the plays of W. S Gilbert and the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and shall be very grateful to any readers who may be able to give me particulars of first productions, first printed editions, etc. The British Museum is sadly lacking in Gilbertian material, and I am particularly anxious to see a copy of "Thespis," the first of the comic operas, which ran for a week, I believe, at the old Gaiety in 1872.

TOWNLEY SEARLE.
Gerrard Street, W.

Readers' Queries.

[The number of readers' queries that reach us is now so great that a small proportion only can be published and we endeavour, therefore, to make a selection of those of most general interest.]

I shall be very glad if anyone can tell me anything about the legend that Christmas Day was on the first of May, May Day.—L. M. M. (Berkeley Street, W.)

Where can I find—

Sing hey for the lad on the lonely isle,
For the knife-notched stick and the firing pile.

For the lass at home and the danger past?

—Inquirer (Hull).

Will one of my fellow readers tell me what the words in Wordsworth's "Intimations of Immortality," "humorous stage," in the line—

Filling from time to time his humorous stage,

allude to, and in Coleridge's "Ode to the Departing Year," st. v.—

To the deaf Synod "full of gifts and lies,"

the words between inverted commas? Also what is the origin of the expression "To come down to brass tacks"?—L. E. K. Thomas (Whitstable).

I shall be glad if any fellow reader can tell me if the law of "Squatter's right" still exists in England, and how long a tenant must remain in unquestioned possession before becoming owner of property.—C. M. White (Chard).

IRISH FREE STATE.

OVERCROWDING IN DUBLIN.

TWELVE IN A ROOM.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

DUBLIN, Saturday.

Were it not for the plays of Sean T. O'Casey most people would know nothing about the life in Dublin tenement houses. Yet even these plays convey but an imperfect picture of this life. They dwell upon the humour and kindly nature of the population, and they disguise much of the misery and degradation. Mr. James Dillon, in his address as auditor to the Law Students' Debating Society, has again aroused interest in this problem. The figures he gives are more eloquent than any dramatic picture. There are 92,000 persons living in 4,800 tenement houses. Of these 32,000 live four or five in a room, and 26,000 six or more in a room. There are seventy rooms housing two families apiece, and one case was recorded where husband and wife, nine children, a married daughter, her husband and baby occupied one room. Often the only sanitary accommodation is a privy and one tap of running water in the backyard.

It serves no purpose to give rein to sentiment and pathos over the matter. It is bad, but it is made worse by people with one-sided imaginations, who, realising how miserable they themselves would be under such conditions, ignore the force of habit and forget that all standards of life are comparative. It is idle to argue that these tenement dwellers would not respond to better conditions, but even more than material things they value the friends, neighbours, and human problems with which they are always in close association. However well housed, they would be lost and lonely among strangers in the country.

A DIFFICULT PROBLEM.

In the light, however, of calm reality the problem is one that should be tackled. To leave it to untrammelled private enterprise can offer no solution. House-building for the working classes is no longer an economic proposition A few rich landlords may do it to preserve the amenities of their property and out of a sense of public duty. The solution is one which requires thought and judgment. The Socialists, both political and Christian, would have no delay. Twenty thousand houses costing £7,000,000 are required. This they would borrow out of hand, and regard it as money well spent—better spent, some might say, than a larger sum devoted to national electrification. There is, however, this great difference between the two proposals. The latter was planned to be directly reproductive, and, according to the managing director, this is about to be realised. In the case of housing a large portion of the outlay would bear no interest, and must be regarded as a grant-in-aid, which financially is a thoroughly unsound use of borrowed money.

As in most of the old and chronic problems of life, there is no ready cut-and-dried solution. The slate is not clear, and a break cannot be made with the past. Regard must be had to all the circumstances. Some of these are peculiar to our city. It is conceivable that in certain cases reconditioning might be the right course.

FALLEN GRANDEUR.

Many of these tenement houses were formerly the town residences of the rich. In them may be seen stucco work of the best Adam-Italian period, discoloured or obliterated by whitewash. Most of, if not all, the marble mantelpieces are gone, a few mahogany doors still exist, and there are fanlights, cut-stone quoins and panelling, alas, now verminous, which tell of better days. Many of the houses are well built, the rooms are large and airy, the streets are wide, and reconditioning might be the proper course.

In other districts, chiefly on the south side near St. Patrick's and the Coombe, the houses are poor and the streets narrow. Here wholesale clearance and rebuilding offers the only solution. This will involve compulsory powers, the compensation of owners, the widening of streets, the temporary accommodation of the present occupants—all of which can only be done by a State-aided statutory body.

So far as the urgency of the problem is concerned, the ground is common to all parties. The need for action is admitted. It is understood that the Minister for Local Government, whose interest in the whole question is well known, has been studying what has been done in other countries. It is easy to accomplish results with plenty of money. The difficulty is to get good value for money, to do justice to all, to avoid as far as possible the demoralisation of indiscriminate subsidies. Some favour direct State operation, others municipal action, others the establishment of a national housing corporation.

These general notions must take concrete form before anything effective can be done, the country and Parliament must be educated. This will be best done by a State Commission, where evidence will be in public and where all sides of the problem can be stated and examined, and which shall be bound to report within a stated period.

USE OF STATE CREDIT.

The right and proper use of State credit is revealed in the report of the Agricultural Credit Corporation, whose third report has just been published. The record is one of steady progress, nett profits after charging bond interest being £12,261, as compared with a debit in the previous year. The capital is in two forms—share capital, held only by the State and banks, and mortgage bonds in the hands of the public. The bonds are secured in the first instance on the actual properties charged, but in the last resort all capital and interest both on shares and bonds are guaranteed by the State. Most of the advances made are for long terms to small farmers who could not offer satisfactory security to deposit banks. Considering the difficult times, instalments are being promptly met, up to 95 per cent. being paid within a month of the due date. It is too soon to say whether this represents the zeal of new endeavour, but it is a promptitude which the banks might well envy in their dealings with the same class of customer.

The Corporation may be congratulated on its success in so short a period. It works on the narrow margin of 1 per cent., borrowing at 5 per cent., and lending at 6 per cent., and the instant success of the recent issue of bonds shows that it has established confidence with the investing public. It offers a marked contrast to the work of its sister body, the Irish Industrial Trust, which was established by the joint participation of the State, banks and public to finance industrial projects, and which has made heavy losses with no visible benefit, direct or indirect, to industry itself.

Peacock's Adjectives.

Sir,—I seem to remember a dactylic line of my school days illustrating a cantering horse, though I may possibly quote incorrectly.

Undique quadrupedans sonitu quatit ungula campum.

A more modern instance of the ambling canter of the farmer's nag is, in sound at least, quite as good:—

Potatoes, potatoes, three-halfpence a gallon.

Salcombe. GEOFFREY ELLIS.

Sir,—The first of your correspondents who deal with Peacock's adjective has produced an unknown author. He says:—

[It] is clearly imitated from the celebrated compound word ...... quoted from Aretas Ecclesiasticus, in the Greek dictionaries which we used to learn by heart.

He is misled by "Ar. Eccl." in his Liddell and Scott. It is, of course, the common abbreviation for "Aristophanes Ecclesiazusae." The word is on line 1169 of that play.

Eton College Library. H. B.

OUR PARIS LETTER

SKITTLE ALLEY POLITICS.

M. BRIAND'S PACIFISM.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, Saturday.

In spite of the alarums and excursions of the past few days France still has a Government. This happy state of affairs is, however, due rather to good luck than to good management, for no one here pretends to believe that the present Government is stable. It is an open secret among the friends of M. Steeg that when he went to present his ministerial declaration to the Chamber on Thursday, after having already lost five members of his Cabinet before the debate began, he rather expected defeat. He only very narrowly escaped it, but whether he will escape it a second time, when a question of confidence is put, is very problematical.

One of the reasons why he was not immediately overthrown is said by certain cynical observers to be the approach of the Christmas holiday and the consequent desire for a temporary political truce. In other words, France is for the moment tired of "skittle alley politics," in which Ministries may be overthrown for little or nothing simply as a part of the political game. It has in most recent cases proved so easy to overthrow a Ministry, but so difficult to establish a new one, that there has arisen a certain amount of public impatience concerning Parliamentary tactics. The man in the street has been saying more frequently than ever that the politician's real duty is to do his utmost to secure a wise and stable government for his country, and not to treat politics as a kind of glorified game of chess. Party transactions and manœuvres which there is not the least effort to conceal do not tend to increase the average citizen's respect for those who are appointed to rule him. But the Frenchman accepts this kind of thing more readily than would an Anglo-Saxon. He frankly confesses that politics are something of a game of chance, and so, while following the various moves with keen interest, he treats them rather less seriously than some of his neighbours do.

PAY OF POLITICIANS.

It is a standing joke in France that, whenever there is a Ministerial crisis, it is followed by a certain amount of scrambling round what the Frenchman describes as "the butter plate." The butter in this case consists of the prestige and emoluments of Ministerial rank, and there are invariably numerous suggestions that the politicians who engage in the scramble are thinking more of the pay and prestige than of the country's good. Yet the fact is that the politician in France is very poorly paid. A Minister receives 180,000 francs a year as pay plus an allowance of 50,000 francs for his motor-car, so that his income from his office is £1,840 a year. A Minister, like all other servants of the State, is paid monthly, so that, apart from his motor-car allowance, he receives at the end of each month a cheque for £120. But there are times when he is paid by the day. The members of the late Tardieu Government, for instance, drew twelve days' pay after the fall of the Government, since they were regarded as still on the active list until the names of the new Ministers were published in the "Journal Officiel." Obviously the popular idea that a Minister is a person who has been fortunate enough to find a fat and easy living is unfounded, at any rate in France, for there are few members of the Cabinet at any time who could not, by following their own professions, earn far more than the Ministerial salary.

M. BRIAND ON PEACE.

M. Briand is growing rather tired of a certain aspect of his reputation as a great international statesman. He is by no means ashamed of being universally known as a pacifist, but he objects to the idea that his pacifism may be thought to mean simply meek surrender and inaction. In a speech which has been hailed as one of the most brilliant he has made during his long career he has just reminded his compatriots and all concerned that when he talks of peace he does not forget security and that the one must of necessity be the complement of the other. Few people think of M. Briand nowadays as having anything to do with war. But he was one of those who, shortly before the war, having foreseen the peril which threatened his country, advocated the return to the system of three years' military training. It was he, too, who, on the very eve of the great conflict, caused the supplies of shells for the famous little "seventy-five" guns to be increased from seven hundred to fourteen hundred per gun. Had it not been for this measure, he pointed out, the story of the battle of the Marne might have been very different, for after that fight there remained only one hundred rounds per gun.

SHOPPING BY PROXY.

The advent of the Christmas shopping season has led to the creation in France of a new branch of commercial activity. Those who find themselves bewildered and puzzled about the purchasing of Christmas gifts are invited to escape the worry of doing their own "shop crawling." All that they need to do is to make out a list of things they want to present to their friends and relations, marking against each the price they are prepared to pay. The list is then forwarded to the professional Christmas shopper, who knows just where to find everything and how much it is worth. Of course, he must receive a certain commission from the purchaser, and no doubt he receives another from the vendor, but many people here have found that the services rendered are well worth their cost. Many a tired woman after a round of shops in search of suitable gifts will confess that she would willingly pay a guinea or two to have someone else accept the responsibility and the worry of gift hunting. It is contended by the professional Christmas shopper that if his services be more generally employed there will be fewer misfits and blunders in the art of giving Christmas presents. He offers his services even in a consultative capacity. When one is perfectly at a loss to know what to send to a relation of nebulous tastes but strongly critical faculties the professional shopper guarantees to find a solution. He is meeting a long-felt want, and perhaps thanks to his tact and training there will be fewer knitted neckties sent to smart young men and fewer carpet slippers to uncles who refuse to believe that they have reached the armchair-by-the-fireside period of life.

USELESS STATUES.

There have been numerous indications of late that Parisians have grown tired of the custom of raising statues to people whose memory in the minds of men is less enduring than bronze or stone. It has been clearly indicated by many recent comments that the city wants no more statues. Rather it wants to get rid of some of those it already has. Statues which have for years occupied prominent places without however adding much to the general beauty of the city have been cleared out and relegated either to a repository or to obscure sites where, at any rate, they would not be a nuisance from the traffic point of view. But the inhabitants of Vincennes, who presumably share the views of most other Parisians concerning statues, have just received a curious surprise. Not far from the famous dungeon of Vincennes has been erected a bronze figure of a man who wears not a stitch of clothing but has a handsome flowing beard. He is represented in the act of running. Who he is supposed to be no one seems to know, and the pedestal on which the statue has been erected gives no information whatever. A cynic has suggested that the authorities themselves do not know why it has been erected at Vincennes, but that it has simply been a case of making room in the overcrowded state storehouse of unwanted statues.

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THE WEEK AT WESTMINSTER.

MR. CHURCHILL REDIVIVUS.

GOVERNMENT'S REBUFF.

By "A STUDENT OF POLITICS."

WESTMINSTER, Thursday.

Mr. Churchill somehow misfired on Tuesday when he made his first political appearance this session. Yet in some respects it was a very thoughtful speech, and that (except in the purely satirical passages) it pleased no one is not decisive of its value. Conservatism is not a fixed creed, and those who make it so are its worst enemies. The sceptical spirit of Mr. Churchill is of genuine service to it, and the reserves that he makes about Protection by no means affect his general loyalty to the party. This stoutest of the enemies of Socialism declared himself on Tuesday in favour of a tariff on imports of foreign manufactured goods, and thinks that the revenue so raised might most usefully be applied not to new works for finding employment, but to subsidies in relief of freights. That was an important contribution to the unemployment debate, worth more than anything that had gone before.

PARLIAMENT'S INEFFICIENCY.

Very interesting to this writer, too, were Mr. Churchill's observations on the inefficiency of Parliament, for that is a subject on which he may often have wearied his readers. None the less, it is at the heart of our political *malaise* to-day. It is to be hoped that he will take an early opportunity of returning to this subject. Apparently he seems to incline to a separate and subordinate Parliament for economic questions, or to a devolution to a separate Committee of the political Parliament. But he did not succeed in making his policy of Parliamentary reform quite clear, and possibly he has not yet worked out his own ideas. But the whole question is much too vital to be left in its present state of viewiness.

Except for Mr. Churchill's speech, a clever but hardly profound speech from Mr. Lloyd George, and a very foolish speech by Mr. Greenwood, the last debate on unemployment was one of the most depressing of the whole series. The closing passages in Mr. Lloyd George's speech showed him once more as the hot champion of land values taxation. This statesman, apparently so fickle, never really abandons a position once taken. At present he is heading back for 1910 as fast as he can; at any rate, that is what he would like Labour to think.

DYESTUFFS ACT.

The other event of the week has been the surrender of the Government on the Dyestuffs Act. On this the Labour tactics have been as inept as those of their opponents have been clever. It was a blunder in the Commons to try to prolong this Bill for five years, but whoever it was in the Lords who reduced this period to one year had certainly a very shrewd political sense. The reduction from five years to one enabled Lord Hailsham to appear as the moderate man anxious not to commit himself to any extreme position on one side or the other, but solely for an inquiry into the facts and for a respite sufficiently long for this to be made. His anxiety to avoid raising the issue of Protection v. Free Trade was most notable; and that he gave an extremely lucid survey of the facts need not be said of so accomplished a lawyer.

On the other hand, Labour fumbled throughout in the presentation of its case. Undoubtedly the instinct of fight came from the academic Free Traders of the party, but they shrank from raising that issue, and involved themselves in detail. Their argument that the textile trades are for the end of the Dyestuffs Act was a strong one, but was not driven home very well nor sufficiently substantiated.

LORDS AND COMMONS.

Worst mistake of all was to prepare so fine a battlefield unless they intended to fight out the issue on it. Lord Parmoor has far too much work to do, and even his industry is hardly a match for it. That the majority in the Commons for the rejection of the Lords' amendment dropped to as low as six is very significant. It shows that the old animosity between Lords and Commons has grown torpid, and that nothing less than a blaze of political sentiment can restore its old animation. Very significant, too, was the division of the Liberals into equal thirds of voters for and against the Government and of lobbyshys. Although the issue of Protection v. Free Trade was studiously avoided, it is, perhaps, not fanciful to see in the vigour of the Labour criticism some rough test of Protectionist inclinations in the Labour Party.

THE EDUCATION BILL.

Sir Charles Trevelyan has been persistently unfortunate with his Education Bill, and the truculence with which he opened has alienated from him such sympathy as might otherwise have been extended to him. The postponement of the operation of the Bill destroyed the last pretence that the Bill was urgent; and now his difficulties with the voluntary schools have destroyed its chance of passing through before Christmas. There is to be a Conference of the various interests early in February, but the situation will be serious if the previous failures to reach a compromise are repeated. For Mr. Scurr, who heads the Labour opponents, is an able and persistent man, and he has strong support in his own party.

OUR ART TREASURY.

There was a curious debate in the Lords on Tuesday on a Bill to authorise the trustees of the British Museum and National Gallery to lend pictures and their other treasures for exhibition abroad. This permission is the last thing that the trustees want, and by some strange muddle they seem never to have been consulted. Lord Parmoor, who introduced the Bill, did not even know that he was a trustee. It is somewhat paradoxical that trustees who are unwilling to trust works by foreign artists to the hazards of a journey abroad and of some foreign exhibition galleries should still be willing to expose the works of British artists to these risks, and Lord Crawford seemed, for him, a little awkward in explaining the technical reasons for this difference. But Lord Parmoor hastily agreed to the postponement of a Bill with which he evidently had no real acquaintance.

Piccadilly Circus,

By LORD DARLING.

The flower, condemned to blush alone,
Might oft aspire to show
Her beauty, so her charm were shown
Where townfolk come and go.

Gay gorse, that grows the fox to shield;
Bright broom, that spreads with gold
The banks beyond the furrowed field,
Where lovers' tales are told.

And they who bring the hedgerow rose,
The lilac's bounteous bloom,
With every flower in garden grows,
Had, surely, earned their room.

A narrow space along the kerb,
With Flora's paniers filled,
Where lavender, and willow-herb,
Their rustic sweets distilled.

Oh, leave the "girls"—so call them still,
Though, as their wares, they fade—
The void in ageing hearts to fill
That London life has made.

Lost heedless hours, brief joyous days—
All earliest memory holds—
The countryside, mad, merriest Mays,
Their modish name enfolds.

EYES BEYOND THE FRONTIER.

AN ITALIAN PROBLEM.

REPLY TO MR. SCULLIN.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

ROME, Saturday.

When, last Sunday, Mr. J. H. Scullin, the Prime Minister of Australia, called together the representatives of the Press to deliver a statement the burden of which was to the effect that the Australian labour market is saturated, the Italian journalists present listened and made no comment. The next day their newspapers printed Mr. Scullin's remarks equally without comment—in small type on their inside pages. And there the matter might have remained had not two organs subsequently moved to the attack. What they have to say raises issues which go beyond the mere question of the admission or refusal of Italian immigrants in Australia, for they may shortly become European issues.

Signor Mussolini, in his last public speech, spoke openly of the Italian "thrust" beyond her own frontiers. Within a few days of that speech he inaugurated a new legion of Fascists, the "Giovanni Fascisti," aged 18 to 21, and numbering some 300,000, who have been specially organised with a view to intensive political (or, as it is phrased here, "civic") as well as militia training.

Despite a tardily admitted economic crisis the doctrine of "increase and multiply" is being preached in Italy and obeyed. To what extent, indeed, the whole country is imbued with the will to obey has been made manifest beyond any possibility of doubt within the last month by the fact that Signor Mussolini's order to reduce salaries and wages by amounts varying from 8 per cent. to 12 per cent. has been received without more than sporadic protests. Prices have come down a little, but by nothing approaching this amount. Nor will they in the future, for a wage cut of 10 per cent. corresponds to a cut in retail prices of from 3 per cent. to 6 per cent. at the most.

TIGHTENING THE BELT.

In a word, the Italian workman has been told to tighten his belt and has done so. He is nearer to the soil than his comrades in other countries (a great proportion of the unemployed, for instance, are quickly reabsorbed—even though unwillingly—by their parents and relatives on the land) and his needs are very small. "How many workmen own a wireless set?" I asked during a recent inquiry in the industrial North. "Not one," was the immediate reply, "Radio is only just arriving in the small shopkeeping class." Very little meat is eaten by the Milanese worker, whose staples are bread and rice. In the country polenta (maize flour) is the main article of diet. Sunshine is the great factor in preserving health even in housing conditions which at first sight would seem to defy even the sun itself. And the Italian workman seems both healthy and strong.

Now he is organised as well, and is being supplied with a political doctrine as to the part he is to play in the future of his country at home or abroad. Needless to say, the future is to be better than the past and better, more Fascist, even than the present, when so much time has to be wasted in correcting the mistakes of other people.

ITALY AND AUSTRALIA.

With this explanation we may turn to the "Corriere della Sera's" comments on Italian labour in Australia, bearing in mind that what is written of Australia to-day may be applied nearer home to-morrow, for France, also, as every newspaper-reader in Italy is constantly reminded, is underpopulated.

What is wrong with Australia we read in the headline. She suffers from "morbid protectionism." She is (we discover a little further on) pursuing an "anti-human" and an uneconomic policy for "nature and Providence alike have destined that immense continent to be intensively exploited and cultivated without distinction of nationality . . . so long as the settlers are good colonists." The writer, who is presumably presenting a semi-official case, goes so far as to maintain that the restriction of immigration will, contrary to Mr. Scullin's view and that of his Government, aggravate rather than alleviate unemployment. "It is a form of Malthusianism applied in the labour field," he continues, "and is just as dangerous as the other."

Mr. Scullin's explanations are dismissed as being—though admittedly made in good faith—"deficient from the moral, the human and the scientific points of view." Australia cannot be regarded as saturated when her population is only just over six millions. And any market, it is contended, will expand if intensively exploited.

Finally the writer boldly turns the tables upon Mr. Scullin and argues that if the population were multiplied tenfold they would form an internal market so valuable that exports to other parts of the Empire would become a less essential part of Australia's economy. And multiplication is, of course, one of Italy's watchwords.

MEN, WOMEN, AND MEMORIES.

LORD HAILSHAM — SIR LESLIE SCOTT — THE MAHARAJAH OF ALWAR—SIR MALCOLM RAMSAY.

By ATTICUS.

Lord Hailsham, who inflicted a signal defeat upon the Government in the House of Lords last Monday by his successful motion for the maintenance of the Dyestuffs Act, is well qualified to deal with a subject of this kind. His knowledge of industrial and commercial matters is not limited to a theoretical acquaintance with them in the course of a long practice of the Bar. He has had practical experience of commerce. After he left Eton, where he was captain of the Oppidans, he learnt sugar-growing on the cane-plantations, and then was for several years at work with his family firm of West India merchants before he served with the Yeomanry in the South African War.

Thus, Mr. Douglas McGarel Hogg had touched life at various sharp and useful angles before (at the age of 30) he was called to the Bar. In the course of the next twenty-six years he had become the leading lawyer on the Conservative side of the House of Commons, Attorney-General, and Lord High Chancellor. The Marquess of Reading, who supported his formidable indictment of the ministerial policy, has also known something of business from the inside; but in his case it was the business of the Stock Exchange, of which Mr. Rufus Isaacs was a member before he turned to the law.

BIG FEES FOR LEADING COUNSEL.

There is, by the way, no truth in the statement that Lord Hailsham is to receive a fee of 10,000 guineas for acting as arbitrator in a great City financial dispute. Yet the rumour might be deemed credible considering the magnitude of the interests involved and the professional status of the learned arbitrator. Larger sums have been paid to leading counsel, not only for regular work in the courts, but for special engagements outside the tribunals in which they usually practise.

One of the largest, if not the largest, must be the fee received by Sir Leslie Scott for acting as adviser and representative of the Indian Chamber of Princes and preparing the elaborate statement laid before the Harcourt Butler Commission. The figure is said to have been not less than £70,000; and if the other eminent counsel associated with Sir Leslie were paid proportionate sums the total cost must have been considerable. But the Ruling Princes of India have between them a good deal of money to spend.

A POPULAR PRINCE.

Among the Princes who have attracted much attention at the Round Table Conference is the Maharajah of Alwar. He is the ruler of one of the minor states, small in area and population compared to such important principalities as Hyderabad, Kashmir, or Mysore. But His Highness's personality is remarkable. He comes from the heart of Rajputana, and the British in India have always had a soft corner in their hearts for the Rajputs, a people of the pure Aryan stock whom we like to think rather like ourselves. His Highness is a soldier (his infantry and cavalry were at the front in the Great War), an enthusiastic sportsman (his team has won the India Open Polo Cup), and a fluent orator, who can make an admirable speech in English. He did this last week at a banquet he gave, attended by a number of eminent persons, British and Indian, to celebrate the twenty-eighth anniversary of his reign. I do not think the speech was intended for publication, though it did get into some of the newspapers the next day. It may have surprised some of its hearers by its uncompromising nationalism. The Maharajah is loyal to the Empire and the Crown; but he believes in self-government, even "Dominion status," for India, in a thoroughgoing and unmistakable form, and does not hesitate to say so.

THE GUARDIAN OF THE PURSE.

When Sir Malcolm Ramsay, the Comptroller and Auditor-General, appeared before the Civil Service Commission the other day, he explained who he was. The information was, no doubt, necessary, for probably some of the Commissioners did not know exactly what are the functions of this high-placed Civil Servant and the general public is hardly aware of his existence. Yet the Comptroller is a most important personage, for he is the official guardian of the taxpayers' contributions to the revenue, and can prevent the Treasury and the entire Cabinet from drawing a sixpence of the money lying to the account of the Exchequer until he is satisfied that it is required for a purpose duly authorised by the law. He is independent of the Cabinet and Parliament; he holds office by letters patent from the Crown, "during good behaviour," like a judge, and his salary is not voted annually by the House of Commons, but is a fixed charge upon the Consolidated Fund. For him parties and politicians have no terrors, for they cannot interfere with him as he goes about the austere discharge of his duties. In the odd moments of attending to these little matters and superintending his large staff of sub-auditors Sir Malcolm, for a couple of years, found time to be Chairman of the Civil Service Whitley Council. He does not apparently regard the female Civil Servant with unmixed enthusiasm, though he knows that she has come to stay.

A SICK POET

Often people besides St. Paul have contrived to keep their spiritual and mental powers intact in spite of a "thorn in the flesh." One such was the late H. I. Mackenzie Bell, who has just passed away after contriving to prolong a rather difficult existence for three-quarters of a century. Bell was a poet, though I am afraid the public did not exactly rush to buy his verses. Yet they were quite good of their kind; and their author also wrote essays and biographies, took an active part in the Imperial Federation movement, and four times made unsuccessful attempts to enter Parliament. Other men have done as much; but Bell got through his life's task under the disability of a distressing physical affliction—epileptic or quasi-paralytic, I think—from which he suffered from his youth onwards. It imparted a certain awkwardness to his manner and appearance; but he bore up against it with an admirable spirit and resolution, and made the best of what another and a greater sick poet called "that long disease my life."

THE ANGLING PHILOSOPHER.

Only a few weeks ago I received a prospectus of "The Book of the Fly-Rod," a noble volume designed to celebrate the art and science of angling in all its diverse aspects. It was intended to contain contributions from the leading authorities on this subject, including Mr. William Radcliffe, the great historian of fishing through the ages, Professor Knut Dahl, Norway's chief salmon expert, Mr. Calderwood, ex-inspector of Scottish fisheries, and various others. And now I learn that H. T. Sheringham, who has been editing the book which his brother George is illustrating, has passed away at his home at Eynsham. His death will be widely regretted by lovers of the reel and rod, who will remember him not only as the author of excellent books on their craft, such as "Fishing, its Causes, Treatment, and Cure," but also as a genial, cultivated, and agreeable individual. He had been angling editor of the "Field" for many years, and had done much special work for various Government departments. He could write on other matters besides fishing, and was, *inter alia*, the author of a delightful and humorous children's book, written round the figures of his own two little daughters and one son. He has died too young at 54, though I hope he lived long enough to complete the assembling and arrangement of the Fly-Rod Book.

THEOLOGY AND FICTION.

Learned Catholic divines who can also write for the general reader are less rare nowadays than they were in 1887, when the late Monsignor William Francis Barry rather startled his theological friends with his novel, "The New Antigone." Barry produced some other stories, as well as striking studies of Newman and Renan, and great historical works on the Papacy in modern times. I used to meet him occasionally when he was passing into a serene and amiable old age, and thought that this highly cultured and accomplished scholar and preacher was rather thrown away on the service of the Roman Church in the cure of souls in provincial Britain. With his wide learning, so lightly borne, his knowledge of human nature, his interest in the things of this moving and restless world, and his suave and easy manner, he seemed as if he should have been a Jesuit cardinal in the seventeenth century, or a fashionable, slightly sceptical French abbé of the eighteenth. But he was born too late for such honours and a little too early (he was 81 when he died last week) to make himself known to the public by writing in the newspapers, as the pillars of the Churches do now.

THE "LIBERATOR."

It is a hundred years ago since Simon Bolivar, the "Liberator" of South America, died in poverty. Until they read the obituaries of him in the newspapers, I do not think that many living Englishmen could have said off-hand who he was. A century ago his name was familiar enough; for thousands of Britons served under Bolivar's flag, and it was mainly by the help of these sturdy fighters that he won his victories over the forces of Spain and established the Republics. He was as popular in England as Garibaldi became a little later; and ships under the Red Ensign were christened by his name. Kipling's miniature epic of the sea, referred to recently on this page, tells the story of the tramp steamer, overloaded, under-manned, "meant to founder," but brought safely into port by her indomitable crew. And that vessel was called the Bolivar.

"THE TOWN": MEN AND INTIMACIES

By "AUTOLYCUS."

Queen Mary has always liked to give good and suitable books to her friends as presents at Christmas time. This Christmas she is giving more than usual, and she has been visiting her favourite bookshops to get them. The Queen keeps in close touch with current literature, and thus always knows just what she wants. Her example in honouring, to a special degree, the slogan "Give books this year" is being well followed in the West End. Even so, the Christmas book market, I am told, is less by 25 per cent. than it was last year. No author has so continuous and sustained a success at Christmas as Mr. Rudyard Kipling, and his new book, "Thy Servant a Dog," is a first favourite. After him come the seasonable writings of Sir James Barrie and Mr. A. A. Milne, and the Poet Laureate is popular with his "tall-ship" book, "The Wanderer." My bookseller friends add that for several days they have hardly been able to keep up with the demand for Mr. Winston Churchill's autobiography of his early life.

⁂

Some of us well remember Mr. Henry White, the American diplomat, of whom a biography has just been published. He came to London as long ago as 1884, and in that year there happened an incident which his friends always associated with President Taft's attitude to him later. The story is that, visiting London in 1884, Judge Taft, as he then was, and Mrs. Taft, wanted to hear an important debate in Parliament. They applied to Mr. White, who could not get tickets of admission for them to the House of Commons that day. Instead he sent them permits to visit the Royal stables at Buckingham Palace. Probably these just happened to be available, and he wanted to do something for Mr. and Mrs. Taft. It is a ridiculous little story altogether, but the point of it is that the future President never forgave Mr. White, and, when he became President, put a spoke in his diplomatic career; and that was certainly true, whatever the reason.

⁂

"Where will you be for Christmas?" was as inevitable a remark as "How d'you do?" at all the parties of last week, during which I came across no fewer than nine people who frankly admitted that they proposed to spend the festive season in bed. Two of them were famous and beautiful débutantes, who are looking forward to making up a few of their lost hours of sleep; one a well-known public man who has been postponing a minor operation to his knee until his engagement book shows a few comparatively blank days: and the rest were embarking on one or other of the distinctly tiresome "more, or less, treatments," as they are called. The lot of those about to be thinned is indeed pitiable, for they will be compelled to lie in bed between frequent bouts of violent pommelling by relentless operators, gloomily sucking lemons; meanwhile their nostrils are assailed by the pungent odours of turkey, plum-pudding and mince-pies being wafted up the back staircase to their darkened bedrooms.

⁂

A sudden scream of pain, followed by two loud cries of "Electric shock," echoed through the room during the pageant at the Eclipse Ball on Wednesday, but only those sitting just below the balcony realised what had occurred. Miss Olga Lynn rose from her chair to get a better view, and in so doing trod on the iron railing and the cable connected to one of the spot lights, thereby receiving the shock. In the ensuing agitation no one seemed to know what to do, until at last Miss Lynn was carried out in a more or less fainting condition. Meanwhile, the pageant continued uninterrupted, and bursts of applause greeted such radiant beauties as Mrs. Ronald Armstrong-Jones as "Day" in a wonderful diadem of tall, glittering spikes, and the Begum Aga Khan, who, attired in green robes and a golden wig to represent "Venus," gave many of the other performers a lesson in poise—that subtle quality whose absence is so often noticeable in these entertainments.

⁂

The annual entertainment given last week by the students at the Architectural Association in Bedford Square took the form of a so-called pantomime, in which the budding architects proved that their talents are not confined solely to that profession. Mr. Godfrey Samuel, the youngest son of Sir Herbert and Lady Samuel, was the author of two sketches: one depicting an encounter on a desert island between a couple of shipwrecked, but by no means disconsolate, ladies (played by two strapping young men) and a very "Primitive Person." The second playlet showed a council meeting in the County Hall, Westminster, in the middle of which Santa Claus makes his traditional appearance, via the chimney, but retires abashed when threatened with a summons for failing to turn on the lights on his reindeer sledge and being unable to produce his passport, together with proof of his sack of presents having passed the customs. The most amusing item was an ode to the Goddess, Rococia, delivered in turn by two figures attired in classic robes.

⁂

The Lord Chief Justice, who has been laid up for the greater part of the year with severe indisposition, is so much better that he was able to pay a visit to the Law Courts during the week, and it is hoped that he will be able to resume his duties in the course of Hilary term, which commences on January 12.

⁂

A remarkable success has been achieved by one of the oldest of our grammar schools, Ipswich, which has gained no fewer than seven open exhibitions at the Universities during the past school year. The school has made gratifying progress under the headmastership of the Rev. E. C. Sherwood, the number having increased from 179 in 1919 to 310 in the present year. Mr. Sherwood, who was a rowing Blue of 1896, and a demy of Magdalen, was formerly Headmaster of St. Lawrence School, Ramsgate, and is married to a sister of the late James Elroy Flecker, the well-known poet and author of "Hassan."

⁂

Two of the younger members of the peerage celebrate birthdays on Christmas Day—Lord Reay, the Dutch-born Chief of Clan Mackay, who succeeded in 1921, and Viscount Hardinge of Lahore (not to be confused with his more famous namesake, Viscount Hardinge of Penshurst), who entered into his heritage in 1924. Both will be thirty-five on Thursday. Another peer who has just missed being a Noelite is Lord St. Audries, who will be 37 on Christmas Eve.

⁂

It requires courage to refuse an undeserved Christmas box, but the feat was once accomplished, it is said, by the late Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. The famous statesman had been very badly pestered by a band of execrable carol-singers, whose leader came to the door on Boxing Day, asked to see Mr. Chamberlain, and began to explain that, after singing outside his house for a week "he had now come . . ." "Yes, I quite understand," interrupted Mr. Chamberlain blandly, as he closed the door, "to apologise."

⁂

The once gentle art of shopping resolved itself during the last few days into a test of physical and mental endurance, and it was, therefore, unexpectedly pleasant to find oneself in a shop where no one was concerned either with buying or selling. This was not as surprising as it sounds, since a children's party was in full swing, arranged by Miss Joyce Montagu, the only sister of Lord Swaythling, who, although only 21, has been appointed to an important position on the staff of a newly constructed shop in Oxford Street. One of her first acts was to have designed and erected in the centre of the children's outfitting department an amusing merry-go-round, which revolves round a thick pillar in the centre of the room. Here I found the small son of Madame Matsudaira, the Japanese Ambassadress, refusing to dismount from a cross between a leopard and a kangaroo in favour of 2-year-old David Montagu, who will one day be the fourth Baron Swaythling.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

A DECEPTIVE DOCUMENT.

SENTIMENTALISM IN EXCELSIS.

By HAROLD COX.

Early last week there was published under an order of the House of Commons dated December 9 the "Report of the Select Committee on Capital Punishment." The report opens by giving the names of the members of the Committee—fifteen in all. It then goes on to deal with the history of the subject, and ends by making "definite recommendations": (1) That the death penalty should be abolished for an experimental period of five years; (2) that until an Act for this purpose is passed the exercise of the Royal Prerogative of mercy should always be advised by the Secretary of State. Anyone reading the report as issued would infer that all the members of the Committee had accepted the report, and that all endorsed the recommendations with which it ends. As a matter of fact, out of the fifteen members no fewer than six resigned rather than accept the recommendations of the majority. Yet there is not a single word in this official document to record this fact. From the point of view of public fair play it is a scandalous thing that a majority of the members of a House of Commons Committee should publish a report with the implied suggestion that it represents a unanimous verdict when nearly half the members of that Committee had resigned their membership rather than sign it. Such action as this alone throws a grave doubt on the judicial qualities of the members who were responsible for the report.

CRUELTIES OF THE PAST.

The text intensifies that doubt. It is quite evident that the authors of this report approached the question from the sentimental rather than the judicial point of view. The account they give of the history of capital punishment in England is certainly in itself interesting. The facts brought out show how completely the public outlook on capital punishment has changed as compared with that prevailing in the early years of the nineteenth century and in previous centuries. We no longer execute people for forgery or other crimes of dishonesty. Nor do we send people to the gallows for cutting down trees, as was done in 1814, where a man was executed at Chelmsford for cutting down a cherry tree. Indeed, the law at that time made capital punishment possible for stealing from a house or shop anything above the value of five shillings. But the obvious purpose of the authors of this report in emphasising facts of past times which to-day seem horrible, is to support their argument in favour of the complete abolition of the penalty of death. What these tales of the past really mean is that in those times life was harder, and peoples' minds were harder than they are to-day. Also it was then extremely difficult to prevent crime, and therefore terrorism was employed as an alternative.

To-day we have an efficient police force and—except so far as its energies are wasted in hunting for spooning couples in Hyde Park, or spying upon night clubs—it is effectively engaged in preventing crime. But behind the preventive operations of the police force there must be punishment for crime, and the average citizen of to-day rightly holds that though imprisonment is a sufficient punishment for most crimes, in the case of murder capital punishment should be retained both as a deterrent and as a just penalty. Modern opinion, in fact, endorses the world-old doctrine of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, or, as it was expressed in ancient Greek literature in a passage quoted in this report:—

> Blood for blood and blow for blow;
> Thou shalt reap as thou dost sow.

THE "SANCTITY" OF LIFE.

From the point of view of the average sensible human being that is a perfectly sound doctrine. But, unfortunately, we have to-day in England a good many people who prefer sentimentalism to common sense, and the majority of this parliamentary committee was obviously composed of extreme sentimentalists. Again and again the report lays stress on what it calls the sanctity of human life. But if human life is sacred, ought not the man who takes away that life by murder to be prevented from doing it again, and to be punished in such a way as to deter others from following his example? The argument used to the contrary by authors of this report is that the State sets a bad example by itself taking life and that, if only the State would cease to take the lives of murderers, potential murderers would be so much impressed that they would refrain from taking the lives of other people. This is a purely fanciful supposition. There is no evidence whatever that any man who wanted to commit a murder would be deterred from doing so because the government of his country regarded his life as sacred. On the contrary, there is considerable evidence that criminals who will commit almost any other kind of crime, shrink from murder because they know that it will be punished with death.

In support of the doctrine that human life is sacred, the authors of this report appeal to the Early Christian attitude with regard to the death penalty. But this appeal to the attitude of some Christians in the years 300 to 400 A.D. overlooks the fact that the Christians were then a small minority in the world and perhaps a little bit inclined to be faddists. Many of them, for example, were communists; but is that fact to be quoted in support of communism in the twentieth century? Another point constantly pressed in this report is that the death penalty is irreparable; but in a sense that is true of all punishments. If a man is sentenced to a long term of imprisonment and the sentence has been confirmed, there is very little chance of a subsequent inquiry taking place to relieve him of that penalty.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ERROR.

As a matter of fact, the death penalty has from the point of view of the accused person this great advantage, that, in the mind of the judge and of the jury and of the Home Secretary it creates a feeling of anxiety which leads to special precautions being taken against the risk of an unsound judgment. On this point the evidence of Lord Brentford is very emphatic. He stated before the Committee that after the most careful investigation of the records of the cases in the Home Office for the last forty or fifty years there was no single case in which he and those associated with him could find even a suspicion that an innocent man had been hanged. This was in substance admitted even by those witnesses who gave evidence in favour of the abolition of the death penalty.

The trouble is that the persons responsible for this report evidently approached the whole subject with a sentimental bias. They were obsessed with the belief that human life is such a sacred thing that even the worst offender against his fellow citizens should not be deprived of his life. Perhaps the best answer to that argument against capital punishment is provided by the French epigrammatic saying:—

Que messieurs les assassins commencent—let the murderers begin.

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Theatres continued on page 5.

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MARRIAGE.

MARTINEAU—WATNEY.—A marriage took place on December 12 at the Prince's Row Register Office between Mr. Henry Martineau, of Chesterfield Gardens, and Miss Constance Rosa Watney, of Hampton Wick

DEATH.

WETHERALL.—On December 17, at "Penrose," Milford-on-Sea, Louisa ("Loo") Wetherall, widow of the Reverend Henry Wetherall. Service at Milford Church to-morrow at 11 a.m.

Sunday Times
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1930.

ANOTHER BAD BILL.

THE first and one of the worst things to be said about the Government's Trade Disputes Amendment Bill is that nobody knows what it means. A growing scandal of recent political practice has been the habit of legislation by reference; here it is seen in a particularly vicious form. Legislation by reference is not only slovenly in itself, it is an offence against democracy: for one of the postulates of representative Government is that the people shall be able to comprehend its laws, and the ordinary citizen certainly cannot grasp the purpose of the new Trade Disputes Bill without floundering in the files of previous legislation on the subject.

When the Bill in question is one affecting the life and liberty of the nation and the very safety of the realm, the offence is especially deplorable. Good drafting was never more necessary than in a measure of this kind, and can seldom have been so far to seek as in the present instance. We do not envy those whose duty it will be to clarify and criticise the Bill in Parliament, but still less do we envy those whose duty it will be to defend it. On what ground can they do that? On grounds neither of necessity nor of justice. The plain truth is that once again the Government has yielded to sectional pressure, and been forced to turn its back on realities and requirements in order to fulfil an ill-begotten pledge.

Half-a-dozen matters of national importance clamour for immediate attention. Industry is sinking; unemployment mounts to giddy levels. And what does the Government do but introduce a piece of legislation that at such a time as this is almost impudent in its sectionalism? As with coal, as with unemployment insurance and pensions, so now with the trade unions: the interests of the nation can go hang so long as this and that section of the Government's supporters are kept docile with continual refreshers.

In the intention to introduce the Alternative Vote the same principle, or lack of principle, is seen at work. The Labour Party itself does not want the alternative vote, is swallowing it with obvious reluctance. But the Government must consider its other supporters, the Liberals; and in order to appease them it is willing to compromise with its own convictions and buy them off with a bribe. Once again the Government is convicted of legislating in a partisan spirit, and out of consideration for tactics.

As with the principle, so with the detail. The details of the Trade Disputes Bill, so far as they can be comprehended, are open to objection on nearly every count. The right to hold up the community to ransom is broadly re-established; Civil servants and municipal employees are re-admitted to their right to join a political trade union; "peaceful" picketing is in large measure restored; in the matter of the political levy, contracting-out once more takes the place of contracting-in. Whether the trade unionist himself desires the last change is extremely doubtful, judging by the popularity of the present system since it was introduced by the Act of 1927. But the very fact that many a trade unionist, given the opportunity, has preferred not to contract-in has been enough to settle matters for the Labour politicians: the new system has meant a heavy drop in receipts for political funds.

To repair party finances and satisfy sectional demands, the Government is proceeding with a measure that threatens the security of the State. Putting things at their best, it is pandering to party claims when it ought to be concentrating on work of national emergency. The Trade Disputes Bill has been brought into the world with a dazzling array of front-bench godparents. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, the PRIME MINISTER, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, and the FOREIGN SECRETARY are among its illustrious sponsors. Plainly they regard the measure as one of first-rate importance. It is certain to have a rough passage in Committee and may quite possibly founder: everything depends upon how much the Liberals can be made to swallow rather than face a dissolution. Already it is being suggested that if the Second Reading is passed the Government will not regard subsequent defeat as serious. But why not? A Bill that comes backed by the most weighty members of the Cabinet is surely a Bill involving the prestige of the Government. A vote taken upon it must be treated as a vote of confidence in the Ministers supporting it. If the vote should go against them, they should resign.

INDIA AND THE NEW VICEROY.

IN the last week or two the atmosphere of the Indian Conference has grown more optimistic; it has been felt that some progress was being made, or could, at all events, soon be made, given one indispensable condition. That condition is agreement between Mohammedans and Hindus on the all-important minority question. Unfortunately, it is the one question on which agreement still seems remote. Europe is used to minority problems since the war, but the Moslem minority problem in India is older and bigger than anything known to Europe. It is fundamental to the Indian question, and on a satisfactory solution of it depends the success or failure of the attempt now being made at St. James's Palace to agree on a new constitution for the Indian peoples.

Hindus and Moslems equally desire self-government for their country. They want that before they want anything. But the Moslems are determined, if self-government is conceded, that their minorities shall receive adequate representation and protection. They demand a guaranteed minority in the Central Legislature, elected from purely Moslem constituencies, and they also demand the control of provinces in which they are in a majority. This the Hindus are not prepared to concede, and at the moment there is deadlock. The chances of agreement on federation are strong, and the outlook otherwise is not unhopeful. In order to gain the principle they both so much desire, cannot the Hindus and Moslems agree on detail? Probably neither side cares to give away anything till it knows what the British attitude will be towards the major question of central government. If and when Hindus and Moslems know that they can get what they want in this respect, they may agree to settle their differences. That being so, the sooner the Government can declare its hand in this matter the better for the success of the Conference.

But, as we have pointed out more than once, success at St. James's does not necessarily mean final success. Congress is not represented there, and Congress will have the last word. When it has had it, and whatever it turns out to be, the task of the KING's representative in India will be one of the most difficult and delicate that any Viceroy has been called upon to perform. The choice of LORD IRWIN's successor was, therefore, a matter of more than ordinary importance, and the Government is to be congratulated on the appointment of LORD WILLINGDON. He is not young, but he knows India well; he has a remarkable record. He possesses tact and popularity, he knows how to be firm, and he has a reputation for never making a mistake. He will need all these qualities in his forthcoming task, and will need them abundantly. He will have the anxious good wishes of his countrymen when the time comes for him to go to his new work.

QUIET ON THE SPANISH FRONT.

IT is the fate of many rebellions to be rendered abortive by the premature zeal of some of the rebels. The recent revolutionary outbreak in Spain was no exception. It would probably have failed anyhow, but its failure was made certain from the moment that a body of over-enthusiastic supporters in the fortress town of Jaca, under the Pyrenees, anticipated the date of revolt by several days. The secret was out; the Government acted swiftly and firmly; and within a matter of hours the outbreak was quelled. There followed a number of isolated attempts, including the adventure of Major FRANCO, the flying "ace," over Madrid, but there seems to have been little heart in them. Now that the trouble is virtually over the Monarchy is probably left stronger than it was, for the comparative weakness of Republican enthusiasm has been demonstrated.

All the same, it is possible that the Government has done itself some harm by the ruthlessness with which the sentences on the ringleaders at Jaca were carried out. The country is anything but settled, and further trouble must sooner or later be expected unless measures of appeasement are taken. The best way for General BERENGUER to satisfy public opinion is to press forward with rather more speed than hitherto his plans for restoring to the Spanish people measures of self-government and freedom. When that has been done the worst of the discontent should disappear, and King ALPHONSO should feel more secure on his throne than for several years past.

THE COURTESY OF THE ROAD.

THOUGH the draft Highway Code prepared by the Ministry of Transport will not actually come into force until it has been reviewed by representatives of the various interests concerned, and has subsequently received the sanction of both Houses of Parliament, it has surely already received the unqualified approval of every reasonable traveller by road. The basis of the code is really to be found in the initial reminder that each of us is a responsible citizen with obligations to our fellow men not to endanger or hinder their proper use of the King's highway. No matter in what capacity we may be using it, whether as pedestrian, cyclist, or motorist, that duty is paramount and must not for one moment be lost sight of in the exercise of our rights as travellers. Indeed, the obligation may be said to be an integral part of our rights, and were the comparatively small minority who overlook this fact to realise it and appreciate it there would be far fewer accidents than there are to-day, and the appalling total of 6,696 road fatalities and 177,000 injuries that did not end fatally in 1929 would be very largely reduced.

The new rules are for the most part the mere codification of the etiquette of the road. They carry with them no direct penalties for their infringement, and it does not, of course, follow that simply setting them forth in a Government paper will make them any more generally observed. But their strength lies in the fact that in the event of either criminal or civil proceedings, failure to observe them will be used as evidence and establish a presumption of blame against any party when non-observance has led to an accident. They therefore reinforce the law, and should be of material assistance in contributing to the safety of road users.

OLD MASTERS ON LOAN.

WE have become accustomed during the course of years to seeing many of the most valuable of privately owned art treasures in this country sold to America. This, perhaps, cannot be avoided, but there has been growing up recently a tendency to hold at fairly frequent intervals exhibitions of the art of individual nations. To facilitate these shows a Bill was last week before the House of Lords to enable the treasures in our own galleries to be sent overseas on loan.

It is fortunate indeed that this Bill should by consent have been postponed, for there are serious objections to the indiscriminate application of such a measure which, though they have been made plain by the officials of the British Museum, appear to have been entirely overlooked by the promoters of the Bill. First of all, there is the obvious risk of damage in packing, and the still greater risk of total loss in transit. But apart from these risks there is the strong probability of the deterioration of certain exhibits. Many of the early paintings in our possession, for instance, are done on wood, and it is a known fact that a sea voyage has a deleterious effect on such work. While, therefore, there is something to be said for taking some risks by lending eighteenth and nineteenth century English canvases in order to spread the fame of British art abroad and repay the courtesy of Belgium, Spain, and Italy, there is everything to be said against the indiscriminate despatch of delicate work which must inevitably suffer as a consequence of the journey, however carefully it is treated.

RIGHTS OF WAY.

MR. JUSTICE MACKINNON deserves the thanks of thousands of countrymen, and of townsmen visiting the country, for his remarks on the need of local authorities to busy themselves in the protection of public footpaths and rights of way. The break-up of estates and the rapid development of building are destroying and threatening these rights at an alarming speed. Sometimes their disappearance is vigorously and successfully contested, but in many instances the old ways are obliterated for lack of properly organised opposition.

In one way the growing popularity of walking itself tends, by a paradox, to endanger these rights. Landowners are more inclined to dispute rights of way when not dozens, but hundreds, use them each day, and do not always use them with a decent respect for surrounding property. This, however, is a minor point compared with the numbers of footpaths that are destroyed by building. As the nation becomes more urbanised, so the recreational value of the countryside is enhanced. For this reason it is more than ever necessary to keep a watchful eye on whatever threatens the rightful access of the public to rural ways.

THE CRATCHIT TOUCH.

CHRISTMAS comes but once a year, and when it comes it brings an astonishing revolution in the habits and manners of ordinary people. Men who have been all the year "secret and self-contained and solitary as an oyster" suddenly begin to slap each other on the back and don paper hats. Actresses send each other affectionate greetings. Old ladies allow the cat, as a special treat, to scratch the dining-room table.

Glorious time of great Too-much!

Even the valetudinarian asks for a second helping of plum-pudding.

How much of this, we may ask, is Christmas and how much is "A Christmas Carol"? It is a moot question whether DICKENS did not invent Christmas as we know it now; whether it is not he who turns us every Christmas into reformed SCROOGES and Mrs. FEZZIWIGS, "one vast substantial smile." At any rate, the CRATCHIT touch is everywhere about us at this time. Let us make the best of it before we all return to the cold, practical, unsentimental mood of every day.

FUTURE OF CONSERVATISM.

WORKERS FOR A NEW PROSPERITY.

COURAGE AND LEADERSHIP ESSENTIAL.

"We need a restatement of Conservative policy on broader lines."

By "Scrutator."

The most indisputable fact in politics is that Labour is desperately afraid of a general election and determined to buy time at almost any cost. That explains what has happened with the Government's Bills, why the party meeting accepted the alternative vote early last week and on Thursday meekly submitted to defeat at the hands of the Lords on the Dyestuffs Act. Liberals, too, are buying time, though for different motives, and with highly uncertain consequences. That there are grave dangers to Conservatism in the association of Liberals and Labour this writer has often tried to point out, but there are also grave dangers to Liberalism; and it may be that delay will be to the disadvantage of both parties. Mr. Baldwin is right. The electorate does not believe in tactics, and hates the political game, which, to those who watch at Westminster, seems so vastly important. Its retributive displeasure has a way of becoming cumulative with delay.

Time is of the Essence.

But party fortunes, after all, are of relatively small consequence. The main question is, what is best for the country, and if the plight of the country is immediately critical, as so many think, it is no real consolation to reflect that the Government and the Liberals are chiefly responsible, and that the Conservative Party may reap the benefit later. Later for the party may be too late for the country. In the domain of philosophy and abstract truth, events may be waited for; in politics time is of the essence, and events must be anticipated and hurried. Conservatives have many reasons for party satisfaction; the sole cause of doubt and uneasiness in their minds is whether they are not being obsequious to events instead of dictating them. This is not primarily a question of whether they should try to form arrangements with other parties, and try to buy Liberal support against Socialism or Labour support for Protection. The sole question is how best the Conservative Party can help the country in its present plight and how speedily.

Mr. Baldwin is no bigot against combination. To his mind the main principle of the Conservative Party is that there should be a "fundamental change" in our fiscal policy. He will make terms with any one who accepts that principle and with no one who does not. Leave out "fundamental," which after all is only an adjective, and there is probably a majority on all sides of the House of Commons that is in favour of some change; in the country the majority is greater still, and if there could be a referendum on this one subject the answer of the country by an overwhelming majority would be Yes; any and every change that will help us.

Lord Buckmaster's Declaration.

Perhaps the most striking of many recent examples of how national perils are breaking down party orthodoxies is Lord Buckmaster's declaration in the House of Lords a fortnight ago. He is prepared to accept even taxation of food on terms; if, for example, our manufacturers were put in the same position in the Canadian market that the United States now occupies, he holds that it would be a good bargain. In both Liberal and Labour parties you can count the number of considerable men who are not in any circumstances prepared to make a breach in the doctrine and practice of Free Trade on the fingers of one hand, and if their number seems greater the reason is to be found not in what they think themselves but in what they think that the people think—that is to say in electoral tactics and in the bewitchment of the Free Trade victory of 1906. Is not the real truth that Free Trade is not a principle at all but an expediency, brilliantly proved in certain conditions but in others quite capable of being varied and even damned? If that be true, does it not become an obvious duty to cash at the earliest possible moment the greatest common measure of agreement between all parties?

A Conservative Pronouncement.

It would follow, of course, that if Free Trade is not a principle, but an expediency, so also is Protection. On that a remarkable pronouncement was made last Tuesday by four Conservatives which has not received the attention that it deserves. "The situation is too grave" (they wrote) "to tolerate any dogma which cannot meet the acid test of facts. If the Free Trader must relinquish his formulas, a certain type of Protectionist must abate his intransigence." The Conservatives who wrote that are Sir Robert Horne, Mr. John Buchan, Mr. Oliver Stanley, and Major Walter Elliot, all four men whose party loyalty is above suspicion and convinced Protectionists. And the practical conclusion that is to be drawn from the statement is not (as has been unkindly suggested) that Mr. Baldwin should forthwith retire from the leadership or that we should convert Parliament into a Council of State or form a National Government or buy such proportion of Liberal votes as Mr. Lloyd George or any other Liberal leader can command, but something much more simple and definite. It is that Protection is an expedient, not a principle, an issue of fact not of morals; a possible bridge over which men of all parties may travel, not a chasm that need separate parties; not a dominating intellectual dogma that covers the whole firmament of politics, but one amongst other servants of political truth and honesty.

Protection Not an End in Itself.

Mr. Baldwin puts it differently, but may mean the same thing. He stipulates for freedom. "I had rather myself," he says, "keep freedom and lose on the fiscal question than win and find myself as I have done in the past, crippled by undertakings given." He has had his way with food taxes; they are no longer an end in themselves, as with Lord Beaverbrook, but a means to an end. If he will do the same with other forms of Protection, and insist on their being the servants, not the masters, of Conservative policy, he will mean much the same as the four Conservatives in their letter. We are ready enough to laugh at Liberals who make a juju of Free Trade or at Socialists who try to stretch a narrow Marxian analysis to cover all the facts in the world and all the motives in human nature. Conservatives must so be Protectionists as not to imitate the follies of their opponents.

We need a new re-statement of Conservative policy on broader lines. If we cease (as we should) to regard Protection as an ideal towards which we must toil indefinitely rather than suffer the slightest indentation of its full orb, and make it the instrument of service to be used as and how we can, it is obvious that our whole attitude of mind towards it must be changed. We are no longer pilgrims of the night, but journeymen workers for a new prosperity. And this work we can begin at once, welcoming any allies that will give service to the immediate business in hand, and remembering that half in time is better than the whole too late.

Foundations of New Prosperity.

A second change in our party psychology will be that Protection, no longer a master, will take its proper place with the other objects of our national policy. The foundations of our prosperity will have to be relaid, and the party which can show that it has the necessary driving power and breadth of vision will not need to cultivate tactics or to tout for allies. They will offer themselves in thousands. But Protection will only be one of many elements in that policy. National economy will also be one; the cleansing of the corruption which buys votes, not, as formerly, with private, but with public money another; another, the fairer distribution of the burdens that are inevitable; another, a new spirit of co-operation between capital and labour; another, the reform of Parliament, to the necessity of which Mr. Churchill drew attention last week; another, the restoration of courage and leadership to their old high esteem in politics. If there has been talk of coalition, it is only because men doubted whether any one party could throw so majestic a span of national policy; if the Conservative Party can do it alone, then the vast majority of Englishmen will be proud to be Conservatives. But it can only be done by some veritable inspiration of leadership, by combined audacity in attack and craft in detaching support, and above all by a sense of the value of time.

THE GREY SQUIRREL.

NEW FARMERS' FOE.

By A. D. MIDDLETON.

A new problem for the harassed agriculturist is arising from the introduction into this country more than forty years ago of a few specimens of the North American grey squirrel. An interesting and amusing animal in 1889, this rodent has now become so firmly established over a wide area of the country as to cause great consternation by its liking for such a varied diet, and the consequent damage to marketable produce. The red squirrel, although causing serious damage in coniferous forests at the height of its abundance early in the present century, was rarely accused of the habits of egg-eating, widespread fruit stealing, or killing young birds, which appear to be all too common attributes of the grey invader. There seems to be no limitation to the range of habitats in which this animal is at home: whereas the red squirrel has always shown a decided preference for pure coniferous woods, and has confined its activities mainly to this specialised habitat, the grey shows more liking for the open, deciduous type of woodland, parklands, orchards, and gardens, and is more frequently seen searching for food on the ground than in its proper arboreal element.

* * * *

A recent estimate of the area so far populated by grey squirrels in this country gave a figure of over 13,000 square miles, and although the density throughout this area is not yet uniform, in several instances a population of two or three to the acre has been found. There is little doubt that, if the increase in numbers and extension of range which is at present so striking continues, the whole country will be uniformly populated by grey squirrels within the next fifty years, and the support of such an additional rodent population must inevitably entail a heavy toll on the production of a largely cultivated country like Great Britain.

* * * *

The rapidly growing industry of fruit farming would seem especially liable to the depredations of grey squirrels, as these rodents are known to do extensive damage by destroying the buds of fruit trees in the spring, as well as by taking the fruit in all stages and peeling off the bark of trees. Forestry in its revived and intensive form cannot afford the levy which it must pay to such a persistent animal as the American squirrel. Already many thousands of young trees have been killed by the loss of a ring of the succulent sap-bearing bark, of which the grey squirrel is especially fond, while the growth of many more has received a severe check through the pernicious method of nipping off the leading shoots of young conifers practised by the same animal.

The farmer, the gamekeeper, and even the poultry-keeper all come in for a large share of the grey squirrel's attention, and a habit which affects all alike is the destruction of the eggs and young of many of our most beautiful and useful small birds. It is difficult to imagine a more formidable nest-robber than an animal with the agility of a squirrel and the morals of a stoat.

* * * *

Our inadequate knowledge of the lives of such animals makes any very successful methods of checking the increase of grey squirrels merely a matter for speculation at the present time. Little can be done, apart from trapping and shooting, but the troublesome nature of this pest is now becoming generally recognised among all but the most ardent nature lovers, and it is to be hoped that such incentives to keep down the numbers as a reasonable market for the fur will soon be available; there is little doubt that the act of putting a commercial price on its head would do much to check the increase which is now so prevalent in many parts of the country.

CHRISTMAS, 1917, IN FLANDERS.

A WAR MEMORY.

By R. A. SCOTT-JAMES.

The Sergeant-Major had been pointedly reminded that this was Christmas Day; and not merely Christmas, but the first complete day of rest the battery had had for seven months. He received with gloom the O.C.'s order, "No avoidable fatigues to-day," and increased the general atmosphere of cheerfulness by subsiding into unaccustomed silence.

Not so the Quartermaster-Sergeant. It was his day, and he was in his element. He was all that the housekeeper of a big family should be. For weeks he had been testing public opinion on the subject of Christmas fare. Should it be beef, or, if obtainable, turkey? Neither. Public opinion unanimously favoured roast pork. Mere economic difficulties had never been known to baffle the Q.M.S. After scouring the back areas in the "tame lorry," which he always succeeded in keeping at his disposal, he returned in proud possession of a fat pig.

Our surroundings, in the village of Wulverghem, were (comparatively) rustic. In revisiting the neighbourhood of Wytschaete, Messines and Neuve Eglise, a year or two ago, I was surprised by its rural quietude, and its air of being far removed from the busy centres of the world. For, in 1917, Flanders had seemed to many of us the hub of the universe. We could not conceive that anything important was happening anywhere else.

A BACK-WATER.

But Wulverghem had been almost overlooked in the scheme of the Expeditionary Force area. Up till early June, just before the battle of Messines, it had been only 2,000 yards behind the front line; and not much of the village was left. But since the push of June 7 it had been fully 6,000 yards behind the front trenches. It was therefore comparatively free from shell fire, though not quiet enough to offer desirable residence to back-area troops. This Christmas we had it to ourselves. There were no civilians, no unbroken houses, no trees. But for us there was enchantment in its loneliness and its greenness. A prairie of weeds spread out along the banks of the little River Douve, full of partridges and other fowl. The light mist of this Christmas morning softened the outlines of Hill 63 to the south, and just permitted a dim view of the distant height of Kemmel.

ALL SHELL HOLES AND WATER.

It was a blessed day for 282 Siege Battery. Only the evening before we had pulled our six-inch howitzers out of a dreary position on the slope of Messines Ridge, which had once been part of No Man's Land. That position did not bear thinking about. The infantry going into the line hurried past it. The enemy had chosen it as a favourite target for their guns. They opened fire on it on quiet days for the fun of the thing when there was nothing more important to be done. As the autumn had deepened into winter it became all shell-holes and water. The mist hovered gloomily over the stumps of trees by the Steenbrek and the old trenches.

EIGHT MONTHS IN ACTION.

For nearly eight months we had been in action in this neighbourhood without rest of any kind—at Petit Pont (before and during the battle of Messines), in the gas-drenched region of Plug Street Wood, and here, on the ridge itself, all through the autumn we had formed the extreme right flank of the artillery taking part in the Passchendaele offensive. During those eight months our guns and our men had no rest.

Divisional troops passed us as they went in and out of the line. But we were never out. Even at that stage of the war the powers that be had not realised that medium artillery, constantly shelled or gassed, and worn by casualties, needed rest like other troops. But on Christmas Eve the relief had come. Two gloomy subalterns tumbled into the little shelter which we called the B.C. post and introduced themselves as our successors. For many hours that night, whilst "time H.E." exploded with terrific claps, but harmlessly, over our heads, all available men strained at the drag-ropes of the guns, scotched up the sinking wheels, made bridges over shell-holes, and at last got the heavy pieces within reach of a caterpillar.

A WELCOME RESPITE.

So it seemed like the beginning of a new era when we found ourselves this Christmas Day in a comparatively dry and decent place, our guns out of action, neatly drawn up in a line and covered with tarpaulins. We did not suppose that the order to pull out of the mud was a reward of virtue. We knew that in a day or two we should be on the trek, with our guns limbered up and our long column of lorries, bound for an unknown destination in the south, where, rumour whispered, new and strange things were likely to happen.

But nobody worried about the next day in those times. For the whole of this day we were free. We six officers, with our two guests, the brigade transport officer and the padre, sitting at night over roast pork and whisky in a chilly little wooden hut, looked back at the war and forward with dispassionate Christmas calm. We knew well that that year, which had opened so brilliantly at Vimy Ridge and Messines, had ended disastrously in the north. I recalled the dismay with which I heard the words of a staff officer on the day after the Battle of Messines, when he told me that the advance could go no further.

"CARPE DIEM."

But on Christmas Day we did not expect early victory; and, in spite of rumours of enemy offensives, we did not expect the disaster of the following March. We were all coming to the conclusion that a war which had lasted for three and a-half years might possibly last for seven. Our lives were absorbed in it. We were becoming accustomed to it as something normal and perpetual. For that reason it was imperative to make the most of every pleasant occasion whenever it occurred. Did we fail to enjoy our Christmas dinner? Not in the least. In the sing-song in which we joined the men afterwards, did those who had cursed the recalcitrant guns yesterday fail to find pleasure in those preposterous war-time choruses? Of course they did not. There was a war on, and 282 Siege Battery had had, and was to have, a pretty rough time. But there was not the least irony in the greeting, "Happy Christmas!" On that day, since there was no new reason to be unhappy, we were not. *C'était la guerre.*

LAST MOMENTS ON SINKING OBERON.

TRAGIC SCENES REVEALED BY LIGHT OF FLAMING SEA.

MR. J. W. H. T. DOUGLAS'S GALLANT DEATH.

VAIN ATTEMPT TO SAVE HIS FATHER

STEAMER CAPTAIN SAVED: WIFE AND DAUGHTER PERISH.

Poignant details came to hand last night of the sinking of the Finnish steamer Oberon, following a collision in dense fog with the sister ship Arcturus. It is feared that thirty-seven persons perished, including Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas, the Essex and England cricket captain, and his father.

According to an account of the disaster given by wireless by two English survivors aboard the Arcturus, Mr. Douglas was last seen trying to save his father, who was coming back to England with him for Christmas.

The captain of the Oberon was thrown into the sea with his wife and daughter. The wife was drowned, but the captain was picked up with his child dead in his arms.

There was a dramatic moment when the captain was presented on the Arcturus to the master of the rescue ship—his brother.

Oil which escaped from the Oberon caught fire as it floated on the sea and blazed furiously, casting a lurid light on the scene and adding to the peril of those struggling in the water.

Last night search for survivors was reported to have been abandoned.

STRUGGLING UP A SLOPING DECK.

LAST GLIMPSE OF THE DOUGLASES.

BY WIRELESS.

From Miss Phyllis Tipping and Mr. Ernest Martin.

S.S. ARCTURUS, Saturday.

All the first-class passengers were gathered in the smoking room of the Oberon after dinner last night discussing and exchanging old cricket reminiscences with the two Douglases, when we heard a steamer hooting close.

We went up on deck to see the Arcturus pass, when the Arcturus hit us amidships.

The Oberon listed immediately and sank within five minutes, and the passengers had terrible experiences struggling up the sloping deck to gain the side of the Oberon.

The last seen of the two Douglases was Mr. J. H. Douglas running down the companion to get a lifebelt, and Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas following his father to try and save him.

All the other passengers on the side of the ship were washed away when the ship sank.

We were in the water for thirty minutes before a boat from the Arcturus picked us up with other survivors, and organised a search of the sea with five other steamers which had reached the scene.—British United Press.

Terrific Lurch.

Mr. Martin gave the following account of the disaster to Reuter's correspondent at Copenhagen, where the Arcturus arrived with the survivors last night.

"At the moment of the collision Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas, his father, and I were in the smoke room. Mr. J. H. Douglas immediately rushed below, apparently to get a lifebelt. His son followed him a moment later to tell him to come on deck, as the ship was obviously sinking fast.

"Then suddenly the end came. The ship gave a terrific lurch, and I struggled out of the smoke room. I was thrown into the sea, and was later picked up by the Arcturus. I never saw the two Douglases or my own wife after the final lurch. She was below when the disaster occurred."

Englishman's Heroism.

COPENHAGEN, Saturday.

A fine piece of heroism by a British passenger, Mr. Vickers, is related by the survivors of the Oberon. In spite of the cold and fog Mr. Vickers sprang overboard to save Mrs. Williams, the English wife of the Dunlop agent at Helsingfors, and both were drowned.—Reuter.

CAPTAIN'S DOUBLE LOSS.

DEAD DAUGHTER IN HIS ARMS.

COPENHAGEN, Saturday.

The Arcturus appears to have had her stem badly damaged, but the crew have effected temporary repairs. The crew at once threw overboard hundreds of lifebelts, as there was no time to lower the boats.

The first ship on the scene, the Gothenburg steamer Tolken, did not dare, owing to her exceptionally powerful propellers to approach and manœuvre in the vicinity, where it was believed that passengers and crew were swimming about. She was forced to restrict her assistance to helping other vessels by means of torches.

The captain of the Oberon lost both his wife and his four-years-old daughter, who were coming to England to spend Christmas with him while the ship was docked at Hull. When he was picked up he was clasping the body of his daughter in his arms.

The naval director of the Swedish gunboat Sevenksund remains aboard the Arcturus attending to the rescued persons, many of whom are suffering badly from injuries on the face as well as on the body.

Turned Over at Once.

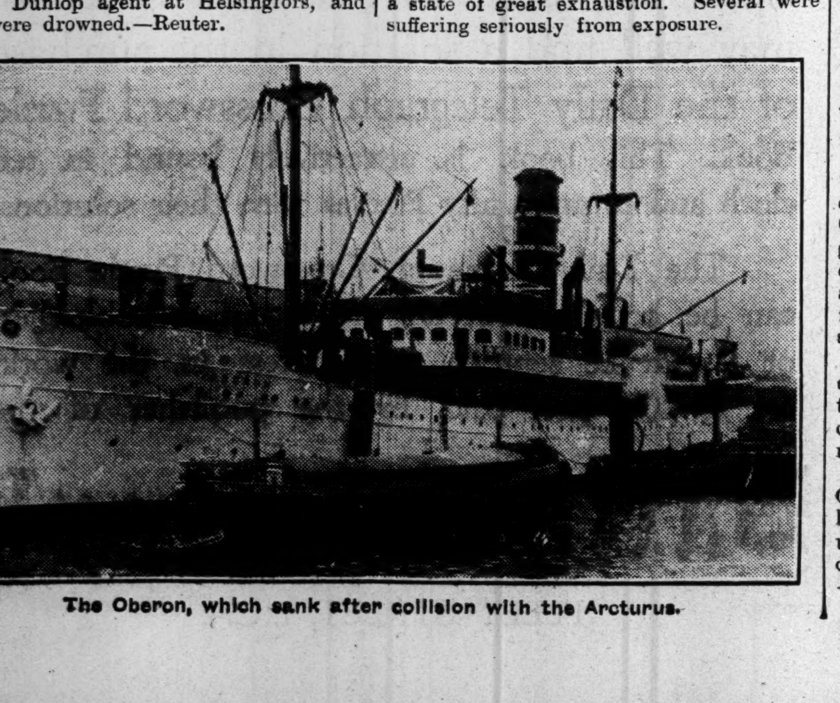
In an interview, Sigurd Nielsen, one of the four sailors who were picked up by the Leith steamer Hengest, states that after the collision the Oberon turned over at once. He and four shipmates, who were off duty, at once came on deck. They could see that their vessel had been struck amidships on the starboard side and had an enormous breach.

Water was rushing into her, and she was heeling over at such a pace that there was no time to do anything, although the captain had all hands on deck at the very moment after they were run into. Nielsen and his companions jumped into the water from the top rail, but one of the five was sucked down.

Nielsen said that he and his companions managed to get into a boat, and immediately, with such means as they had available, they managed to pull away from the sinking ship and from the burning oil that was on the water. There was no doubt that many of those on board, both passengers and crew, perished in the flames or were sucked down by the ship. All lights on the Oberon went out a few moments after the collision, and the screams and cries were heard everywhere.

There was some wreckage about. Neilsen and his mates found that their boat had sprung a leak and was taking in water quickly. They had hard work to bale the water out. They tried to light a lantern, but could not find any kerosene.—Exchange.

The Arcturus proceeded to Copenhagen with the rescued, most of whom were in a state of great exhaustion. Several were suffering seriously from exposure.



The Oberon, which sank after collision with the Arcturus.

THE BRITISH PASSENGERS.

NINE REPORTED MISSING

HUSBAND SAVED AND WIFE LOST.

According to the official figures, the Oberon carried twenty passengers and a crew of fifty-seven. Of these, sixteen passengers and twenty-one members of the crew were last night reported to be missing.

The following are the details of the British passengers:—

SAVED.

Miss Phyllis Tipping.	Miss V. Hardman.
Mr. E. Martin.	Miss H. Backman.

MISSING.

Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas and his father,

Mr. J. H. Douglas.

Mrs. Gilbert Williams, wife of the Dunlop agent at Helsingfors, and her daughter.

Mr. William Milson, spinning mill manager at Helsingfors, his wife and daughter.

Mr. E. Vickers, employed by a firm of timber merchants.

Mrs. Mary Martin, wife of Mr. Martin.

Mr. Gilbert Williams, the Dunlop agent in Helsingfors, whose wife and daughter are missing, sailed in the Oberon. It is believed that he left the ship at Copenhagen.

Among the Finnish passengers who are missing is Miss Alice Hafran, Finnish doctor of philosophy, who was on her way to London for her wedding. She was to have married, on Tuesday, Captain Jack O'Brien, M.C., who during the war was British Military Attaché in Finland.

Apart from British subjects, the passengers reported missing are:—

Messrs. Savilampi, Mikonaho, and Nillson, and Mesdames Melart, Syria, Wejl, Hafran, Nillson (and daughter), and Savilampi (and child).

There are in all four children among the missing.

Details of the careers of Mr. J. H. Douglas and Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas appear on page 15.

HOLED AMIDSHIPS.

SHIP PLUNGES TO DOOM IN THREE MINUTES.

COPENHAGEN, Saturday Night.

The Oberon was on her way from Finland to Hull. She belonged to the Finska Angfartygs Aktiebolaget, and was a vessel of 3,002 tons. She collided at 9.30 last night, off Laesoe, with the Arcturus, a ship belonging to the same line, proceeding in the reverse direction. The Oberon, holed amidships, sank in three minutes.

The collision occurred without warning. The Oberon had twenty passengers on board and a crew of sixty-three. The Arcturus was herself damaged, but picked up a number of survivors and stayed on the spot for hours to assist in the search.

The Captain of the Oberon, according to the survivors brought to Copenhagen, was on the bridge when the ship began to sink. Immediately he gave orders for the boats to be manned and lowered, and lifebelts to be issued. Everything happened so quickly, however, that as far as they know only two of the eight lifeboats were unfastened before the ship sank. There was no time even to remove the tarpaulins from some of the boats.

Empty Lifeboats.

As several of the boats of the Oberon were missing, it was planned to send out seaplanes to search for them. This was prevented by the fog.

It is reported from Stockholm that the fishing vessel Zita came across two empty and waterlogged lifeboats, one belonging to the Oberon and the other to the Arcturus. In one of the boats a number of objects were found, including a glove and a lady's watch. —Reuter.

BROTHER CAPTAINS

DRAMATIC MEETING.

HELSINGFORS, Saturday.

A description of the dramatic meeting of the brother captains—Erik Hjelt of the Oberon, and Osse Hjelt, of the Arcturus—was given by the master of the salvage ship Garm.

He says that the master of the Oberon was on the bridge with his wife and little daughter when the collision occurred. All three jumped immediately into the water. Mme. Hjelt was quickly seized with cramp and sank. The captain swam towards the Arcturus with the child in his arms, only to make the tragic discovery that she had been frozen to death by the immersion in the icy water.

The drama of the meeting of the two brothers was heightened by the spectacle of the master of the Oberon standing with his daughter's body still lasped in his arms.

"Later," says the master of the Garm, "I went aboard the Arcturus and saw the brothers in the master's cabin. Silently they faced each other, and nearby on the sofa lay the little child, partly covered by a newspaper.—Exchange.

THE ARCTURUS IN PORT.

WIFE'S LAST MESSAGE.

COPENHAGEN, Saturday.

The Arcturus entered Copenhagen Harbour at 9.45 to-night. Its quiet and slow approach through the rain was indeed touching.

The bow of the ship was very badly crushed, with gaping openings both above and below the anchor hawser pipe.

As the ship steamed alongside the quay, where there was a number of the public, the crew of the Arcturus and the survivors from the Oberon could be seen standing on the deck, a tired, exhausted band of men and women.

All the men standing on the quayside uncovered their heads, and as the vessel came alongside a sailor rescued from the Oberon called out for Mr. Williams, to give him a message which Mrs. Williams, one of the missing Oberon passengers, had asked the sailor to pass on to her husband for her if she should be lost and the sailor saved.

The five bodies recovered were lying in one of the lifeboats. They were those of three women, the little daughter of the captain of the Oberon, and a man who has not yet been identified.

Captain Ossi Hjelt, the captain of the Oberon, was not seen at all. Having lost his wife, his daughter, and his ship, it was understood that he remained in a cabin too deeply affected to see or to speak to anyone. —Exchange.

Continued on page 12, column 4.

FUTURE OF SEA POWER.

NEW MOVE BY GREAT BRITAIN.

SECRET MISSION.

PROPOSALS TO FRANCE AND ITALY.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

ROME, Saturday.

Mr. R. L. Craigie, of the British Foreign Office, and secretary of the recent Naval Conference, arrived in Rome from Geneva early this week, and has been holding a series of conferences with high Italian officials on the naval question. Last night he spoke at some length with Signor Grandi.

The greatest secrecy is being observed regarding Mr. Craigie's mission, but it is undoubtedly a sequel to the visit paid by Mr. Gibson, the head of the American delegation of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission in Geneva.

It indicates Anglo-American anxiety concerning Franco-Italian relations, which are regarded as a danger to the Three-Power Agreement reached in London. This, it is felt, may be wrecked as a result of the Franco-Italian building programme.

COMPROMISE PROPOSALS.

The basis of the present conversations is believed to be British compromise proposals submitted in interviews in Geneva.

These proposals are, it is understood, that France and Italy shall complete their 1930 programme and then suspend building until 1936. This plan will give France and Italy seven 10,000-ton cruisers each, but France will have a superiority in submarines and in destroyers, and Italy a slight excess in light cruisers.

It is understood that both countries find certain objections to the original British proposals, and that some amendments have been made and are now under discussion.

Mr. Craigie will leave shortly for Paris in order to continue his conversations there.

AN IMPORTANT STEP.

The Sunday Times Diplomatic Correspondent writes: The importance of Mr. Craigie's mission needs no stressing. It is an open secret that both in London and in Washington the failure to bring about an Italo-French naval agreement has given rise to serious misgivings.

It is not simply that Italo-French naval rivalry is in itself sufficiently disquieting: there is the additional consideration that any increased building by those countries would have an effect on the London Naval Treaty. It may be recalled that the Treaty contains a so-called "escalator clause," under which the naval programmes of the three signatories—the United States, Great Britain, and Japan—may be increased in the event of unexpected naval expansion by other Powers.

Already Mr. Gibson has made serious efforts to compose Italo-French differences. His lack of success caused deep disappointment to President Hoover and Mr. Stimson, his Secretary of State.

WALL STREET'S CHRISTMAS.

"DEEP IN THE SLOUGH."

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Wall Street's Christmas this year will be one of the leanest on record. Christmas, 1929, was comparatively prosperous for the financial district, in spite of the crash in stock prices, and banks and brokerage houses declared generous "bonuses" for their employees, based on the enormous volume of business.

In the year that has elapsed, conditions have steadily grown worse, and the Season of Good Cheer finds the famous street deep in the slough. Bonuses last year ranged from ten to a hundred per cent. of the employees' annual salary. To-day only the largest banks are able to afford any Christmas-box, and five per cent. distributions are rare. In the vast majority of brokerage houses the Christmas Spirit is expressed simply in prayers for better times, and recipients of one week's salary are regarded as fortunate.

It is estimated that twenty-five per cent. of Wall Street's vast army of employees has been dismissed during the past twelve months; and in recent weeks bank failures throughout the country have been recorded at an average of a score daily. Material losses on loans and investments made at inflated values have usually been responsible.

There are some grounds now to justify the hope that the worst is over, and Wall Street looks forward to the New Year with some degree of confidence.

THE PRINCE'S CHILL.

GOOD PROGRESS BUT STILL CONFINED TO HOUSE.

The Prince of Wales continues to make satisfactory progress towards complete recovery from his slight chill, but he did not leave York House, his residence at St. James's Palace, yesterday.

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Sunday Times

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POLITICAL NOTES

THE DYESTUFFS ACT.

LABOUR'S CAPITULATION.

THE NEW VICEROY.

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

There can be no doubt that the House of Lords is admirably led these days. Lord Salisbury's statesmanlike handling of the Coal Mines Bill, with its insistence on freedom to adopt the "spread-over principle," is still fresh in memory; and equally creditable to the predominant party in the Upper House was Thursday evening's debate on the Dyestuffs Act. Lord Salisbury, who is temporarily indisposed, was necessarily absent on this occasion, but he had an admirable deputy in Lord Hailsham, who, resisting his natural inclination to lay about the foe, opened the debate with studied moderation, and enabled the Government to capitulate with as good grace as they could command.

Of course, the matter had been practically settled by the Commons division of the previous evening when the motion to reject the Lords amendment was only defeated by a majority of six, which, parenthetically, might have been wiped out if the Conservatives had polled their full strength. Earlier in the week the Ministerial and Liberal organs had commenced to fulminate against the "impudence" of the Lords in endeavouring "to defeat the considered opinion of the Commons," but after the division they were discreetly silent. It would have been too silly to raise the cry of "Ending the Lords" on a majority of six.

Lord Darling, who was the only other speaker besides Lord Hailsham and Lord Parmoor, enlivened the debate with a clever quip. Lord Hailsham had said that it was only a question between the dye-maker and the dye-user, but said Lord Darling, "it is rather a question between this House and those whom I will venture to call—because they exist on the sufferance of one man—the *morituri*."

Lord Willingdon.

The Prime Minister must be given good marks for the appointment of Lord Willingdon to succeed Lord Irwin in the Viceroyalty of India. The more so as he was under very strong pressure to make a party appointment, and there is reason to believe that for this reason he dallied at one time with the selection of a Labour peer, who, though what Charles Surface would have called "a worthy person," was without any experience of India or of high administrative work. Perhaps it was Mr. MacDonald's realisation of the grave blunder of such an appointment that made him give some ear to those colleagues and friends who wanted him to go himself. Happily he avoided both courses, and has made a choice that could not be bettered. Lord Willingdon knows India well, for he acquitted himself so well as Governor of Bombay that he was in succession made Governor of Madras, and he goes to India this time with all the prestige of a very successful term as Governor-General of Canada. A man of dignified bearing and quiet manner, he is yet a good "mixer," and inspires not only confidence but regard wherever he goes. He has the hardest task of his career before him, but there is no one who is more likely to win success in it.

The Trade Unions Bill.

The new Trade Unions Bill is undoubtedly what Dick Swiveller would have called "a staggerer," but of course it is not going to become law as it stands. Even the Liberals, ready as most of them are to keep the Government in at almost any price, would surely jib at some of the provisions of the measure which would practically put the trade unions above the law. Probably the Government are prepared to make concessions, and made the Bill the stronger in consequence. The great struggle will be over the proposed return to "contracting out" instead of "contracting in" as regards the political levy. The change made by the law of 1927 has undoubtedly been grateful to the large body of trade-unionists who dislike the political activities of their unions, but it is destested by the great body of officials, as it has heavily reduced the produce of the political levy. The Government will be forced to stand on the clause, but it remains to be seen whether the Liberals, the bulk of whom are well content with "contracting in," can be induced to support them. Much will depend on the efforts of Mr. Norman Birkett, who, as I noted a week or two ago, is *persona grata* with Labour, to find some sort of bridge in the matter.

Unemployment.

Meantime the unemployment issue is becoming pressing. Almost immediately the Liberal leader will be supplied with the actual outlay from the Exchequer on unemployment relief schemes, so far as it can be ascertained. As a figure, however, it is of little importance, for the real test lies with the local authorities, and an increasing number of members of the Government are reaching the conclusion that so detailed are the negotiations with the authorities, and so great the delay, that they must very soon take greatly increased powers in central control. That may carry with it the danger of a greater State contribution, to which presumably Mr. Snowden is unwilling to consent. It is also suggested that the essential point is the central control and direction; and that the local authorities might be merely informed of the contributions they had to make, with, if necessary, the possible deduction of these amounts from time to time from the grants under various heads which they normally receive from the Exchequer. All that would be highly contentious; but something must be done to accelerate progress, and on present lines it appears to be virtually impossible to find a remedy.

A Little Dinner.

It is a wholesome tradition of our parliamentary life that the asperities of politics should, as far as possible, be confined to the House proper, and that there should be no ban on social intercourse between members of different parties in its precincts. So it follows that the Conservative lion will often not only sit down with the Liberal or the Socialist lamb in the smoking-room or on the terrace, but will sometimes break bread with him in the dining-rooms of the House, to their mutual enjoyment and, we may hope, edification, without any prejudice to their party loyalty. For this reason I am very much in sympathy with Mr. Boothby's protest against the uninvited publicity that was given to his little dinner last week at which "L. G." was the principal guest, and the hint that mischief was afloat. Happily the insidious suggestion fell on barren soil, and we can be quite sure that neither Mr. Baldwin nor the Whips will score a black mark against Mr. Boothby for thus consorting with the enemy.

STOP-PRESS NEWS ON PAGE 12, COLUMN 2.

PRISON FOR U.S. GANGSTERS.

CAPONE'S BROTHER GIVEN THREE YEARS.

EVADING PAYMENT OF INCOME TAX.

CHICAGO, Saturday.

Ralph "Bottles" Capone, eldest brother of "Scarface," was to-day sentenced to three years' imprisonment on a charge of avoiding the payment of income tax, and on a further charge of conspiracy to violate the Prohibition Act.

Frank Nitti, one of "Scarface" Capone's henchmen, was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 dollars (£2,000) on a similar charge of evading the payment of income-tax.

Nitti was found by detectives living in a luxurious flat and disguised with a false moustache.

Nitti's income for the last three years amounted to 842,887 dollars (£168,577). Most of this was obtained from liquor and gambling houses. Nitti pleaded guilty, but was given permission to spend Christmas with his family before going to prison.

Ralph Capone's income for the last five years is estimated at 1,871,000 dollars (£374,000). The income for the last three years of Jake Guzik, the so-called "business manager," who has been convicted, is believed to be over 1,000,000 dollars £250,000). —Reuter.

SECOND "FLOOD" ON UNDERGROUND.

SCENES AT TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD.

Alarm was caused to passengers and officials at Tottenham Court Road Underground station during yesterday afternoon by an outburst of water at the head of the escalator and across one of the subways leading to the station.

The flood began at 4 p.m., and although traffic was not stopped, passengers were warned to keep to one side of the escalators, and one exit was closed.

It was discovered that there was no fresh burst, but that a hydraulic main, formerly used for working the lifts, had become uncapped owing to the repair work above ground following the flooding earlier in the week. Pumps were used yesterday, but it was nearly an hour before the water was under control.

BELGIUM'S ROLE.

KEEPING THE PEACE IN EUROPE.

An important article will appear in the "Daily Telegraph" to-morrow from the pen of Professor Maurice Gerothwohl, which deals with a remarkable development that has taken place in Belgium with regard to the position of that country in the event of another outbreak of war in Europe.

Now that Belgian neutrality has been abandoned, she cannot have the status she held at the outset of the Great War; she has become a guarantor, as well as a guaranteed party, in certain contingencies. Professor Gerothwohl explains the extent to which her commitments involve her, and her part in co-operation with the Powers seeking to ensure peace.

At the popular price of one penny the "Daily Telegraph" is outstanding among the morning newspapers by reason of the fullness and accuracy of its news services and the literary features it contains.

FOR BRIDGE PLAYERS.

A NEW COMPETITION FOR OUR READERS.

Details of an interesting Christmas Bridge competition will be found on page 5. Nine questions have to be answered, dealing mainly with declarations which ought to be made when holding the hands indicated.

One of the questions is purely Contract, but the others can be answered either as Auction or as Contract, care being taken, however, not to mix the varieties of the game in the replies.

SIR ERIC DRUMMOND IN BRAZIL.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Saturday.

President Vargas to-day received Sir Eric Drummond, who is making a tour of Latin America, accompanied by several officials of the League of Nations.—Reuter.

NEW VICEROY OF INDIA.

WELCOME BY ALL PARTIES.

LADY WILLINGDON'S RÔLE.

EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RACIAL RELATIONS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The announcement of Viscount Willingdon's appointment as Viceroy is hailed with delight. Even the staunchest Nationalists find it difficult to criticise the choice of one whose every thought was towards promoting Indo-British co-operation.

Lord and Lady Willingdon have a very wide circle of friends in the East. Throughout his two Generalships he was particularly popular with all Indians through his example and precept and his strong opposition to that racial exclusiveness in social circles which formerly marred Indo-European good will. Lord Willingdon and his wife realised the unrest rooted in this racial discrimination, and the "Times of India" to-day says their influence in paving the way for reform of the conditions prevailing was incalculable, and was a considerable factor in the removal of racial discrimination from the criminal procedure code.

The paper recalls Lord Willingdon's declaration at the conclusion of his Madras Governorship that the principal cause of ill-feeling was the Britisher's assertion, often unconscious, of superiority over the Indian. In this respect the Willingdon Club here, without racial barriers, stands as a memorial of his work.

The "Evening News" to-night says that all three political parties have paid a tribute to Lord Willingdon by giving him the appointment, so no better proof is wanted of the explicit trust reposed in him, and it thinks the situation demands such a Viceroy of experience known to the people who trust him. If Lord Willingdon has preserved his vitality, his intimate knowledge of the country will more than counterbalance the age disadvantage.

The "Daily Mail" (Nationalist), while admitting that the choice is the best possible, refers to Lord Willingdon's Canadian speech, that he was only waiting the expiration of his office in order that the cork might be taken from the bottle and he could give his views on Gandhi, and adds: "The new Viceroy will have to realise that India to-day is very different from the country he knew."

APPOINTMENT A "COMPROMISE."

NEW DELHI, Saturday.

Lord Willingdon's appointment has quickly spread to the bazaars, and received a general welcome on the ground that if a person with experience of Indian affairs was to be chosen, then Lord Willingdon, as a tried administrator, was the best selection.

Both official and political circles think that Lord Willingdon represents a compromise between two schools of thought, and may prove to be a good choice for that reason.—Reuter.

CANADIAN TRIBUTES.

LORD WILLINGDON'S TACT AND ABILITY.

OTTAWA, Saturday.

Mr. R. B. Bennett, the Prime Minister, in a statement last night, said he regretted that Lord Willingdon would be obliged to leave Canada before the normal expiry of his term of office as Governor-General. He declined to intimate his successor (due in April or May), but paid a high tribute to the tact and ability with which Lord Willingdon had performed the duties of his office during the past four years.

The former Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, who was for four years Prime Minister in Lord Willingdon's Governor-Generalship, said the appointment should be satisfactory in every way.—Reuter.

"Crikey!"
'SH-ELL!

LAST NIGHT'S PREMIÈRES.

THE "TOYMAKER" IN MUSICAL FORM.

AN EVENING OF BALLET.

LIVELY PUPPETS.

The first performance of the new version of "The Toymaker of Nuremberg" provided an attractive entertainment last night at the Kingsway Theatre.

Mr. Austin Strong's delightful fantasy was produced originally at the Playhouse exactly twenty years ago, and those whom it so rightly pleased then will doubtless be eager to see how it has fared with the old piece, while there is, of course, a new generation to welcome it.

Trifles light as air should not be subject to heavy-handed criticism; let it be simply said that this piece sets out to charm, and does its job with a thoroughness and efficiency worthy of the Germans.

There is a strong company which includes the Gresham Singers. It is pleasant to meet Miss Alex. Frizell again, and once more to see something, indeed the whole, of Mr. Roy Byford. Our English Hans Sachs, Mr. Frederick Ranalow, carols as handsomely as ever, and Messrs. Lawrence Baskcomb and Lewis Shaw do well. There are lots of pretty ballets and lots of children, each, in its parents' opinion, doubtless more talented than the others. Mr. Dudley Glass's scenery and Mr. George Sheringham's scenery compete for our admiration, and nobody wanting two and a-half hours of innocent enjoyment will look further. J. A.

CHRISTMAS BALLET SEASON.

KARSAVINA'S TRIUMPH.

At the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, Mme. Thamar Karsavina will be appearing, for the next three weeks, in many of the numbers of a sevenfold bill of ballet—a Christmas season, arranged in collaboration with Mme. Marie Rambert and her dancers.

From what was seen at the first performance, last night, two things are obvious: that the programme is admirably varied and adapted to the season, and that this *corps de ballet*, with which Mme. Karsavina has been previously associated, has gained very considerably in confidence and finish since then. So much so that we have here evidence of the definite establishment of an English company, heir to the best traditions of the Russian ballet.

In the classical tradition are "Carnaval" (with Schumann's music), "A Florentine Picture" (music of Corelli), "Le Spectre de la Rose" (Weber), and "Les Sylphides" (nocturne, valses, mazurkas, and a prelude by Chopin). In such the illustrious dancer's very eyelashes shed eloquence, and in M. Leon Woizikowsky and Mr. Harold Turner she has partners of high grace and nimble characterisation.

Her personal triumph was greatest in "Le Spectre de la Rose." But the charm of the grouping of Mme. Rambert's Madonna and her six attendant angels in the "Florentine Picture" is just as compelling in a very different vein.

In the modernist tradition are two satirical "Sporting Sketches" by Susan Salaman, in which the English personnel are particularly adept—"Cricket," with a couple of dreadful byes, and "Rugby," with inconceivable scrums and a try. These made the house ripple continuously.

The late Peter Warlock's "Capriol Suite," with its attractive French peasant costumes and dances, and a Divertissement, including several Tchaikovsky fairy dances, by way of Finale, supply other notes of contrast in what is certain to be a very popular entertainment.

One has left the music to the last, but it is very important. At the happy suggestion of Sir Nigel Playfair, an orchestra is supplanted by two grand pianos, upon which Miss Edith Gunthorpe and Mr. Cecil Baumer skilfully play very clever arrangements. The plan is the more attractive in that much of the music used was originally written for piano. H. F.

THE PUPPETS OF KENSINGTON.

NOVEL ENTERTAINMENT.

What is surely the most fragrant of the Christmas entertainments opens to-morrow at the Queen's Gate Hall, South Kensington. It is a Puppet Show, and no sooner will the curtain rise than the audience, grown up and children alike, will agree with Harlequin (just as we did at last night's dress rehearsal), when he trips about in a joyous way, singing "'Tis good to be alive."

The puppets are the creations of Mr. and Mrs. Gair Wilkinson and their daughter, and are full of charm and an incredible "aliveness."

Harlequin lives in a world which can be brought to life and colour just by a touch of his magic wand, while a delectable Columbine is his for the asking.

Mr. and Mrs. Pantaloon take their part in a domestic comedy, with a string of galvanic sausages, and one is bound to note that Pantaloon is fashioned strangely like Mr. Bernard Shaw.

The funniest scene is a single "turn" by Sam, the dragon, who is sure to be greeted with roars of laughter from the children who are taken to this old-world entertainment during their holiday.

M. M.

THE SICK LIST.

MR. SNOWDEN MAKING PROGRESS.

Last night's reports on the condition of invalids:—

The Maharaja of Patiala, a delegate to the Round Table Conference (chill): Condition satisfactory.

Mr. Philip Snowden (chill): Progressing favourably.

Lady Abbot-Anderson (operation for appendicitis): Progressing satisfactorily.

Miss Phyllis Dare (operation for appendicitis): Going on nicely.

Lord Riddell (operation): Getting on well.

Lord Ilkeston: Making satisfactory progress.

Sir Charles Wilson: Making progress.

Mr. Neil Munro, the Scottish author and former editor of the "Glasgow Evening News" is seriously ill at his home in Helensburgh.

MR. GOOSSENS' NEW POST.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Mr. Eugene Goossens will conduct the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra during the 1931 season. He succeeds Herr Fritz Reiner.—Reuter.

DEATH OF U.S. MINISTER.

THE HAGUE, Saturday.

Mr. Gerrit John Diekema, American Minister to Holland since 1929, died at the Red Cross Hospital here this afternoon, aged 71.—Central News.

[Mr. Diekema was born at Holland, Michigan, in 1859. He was admitted to the Bar, and was connected with banking and life insurance interests. He was a member of the House of Representatives from 1885 to 1891, was Speaker in 1889, and returned to Congress from 1907 to 1911.]

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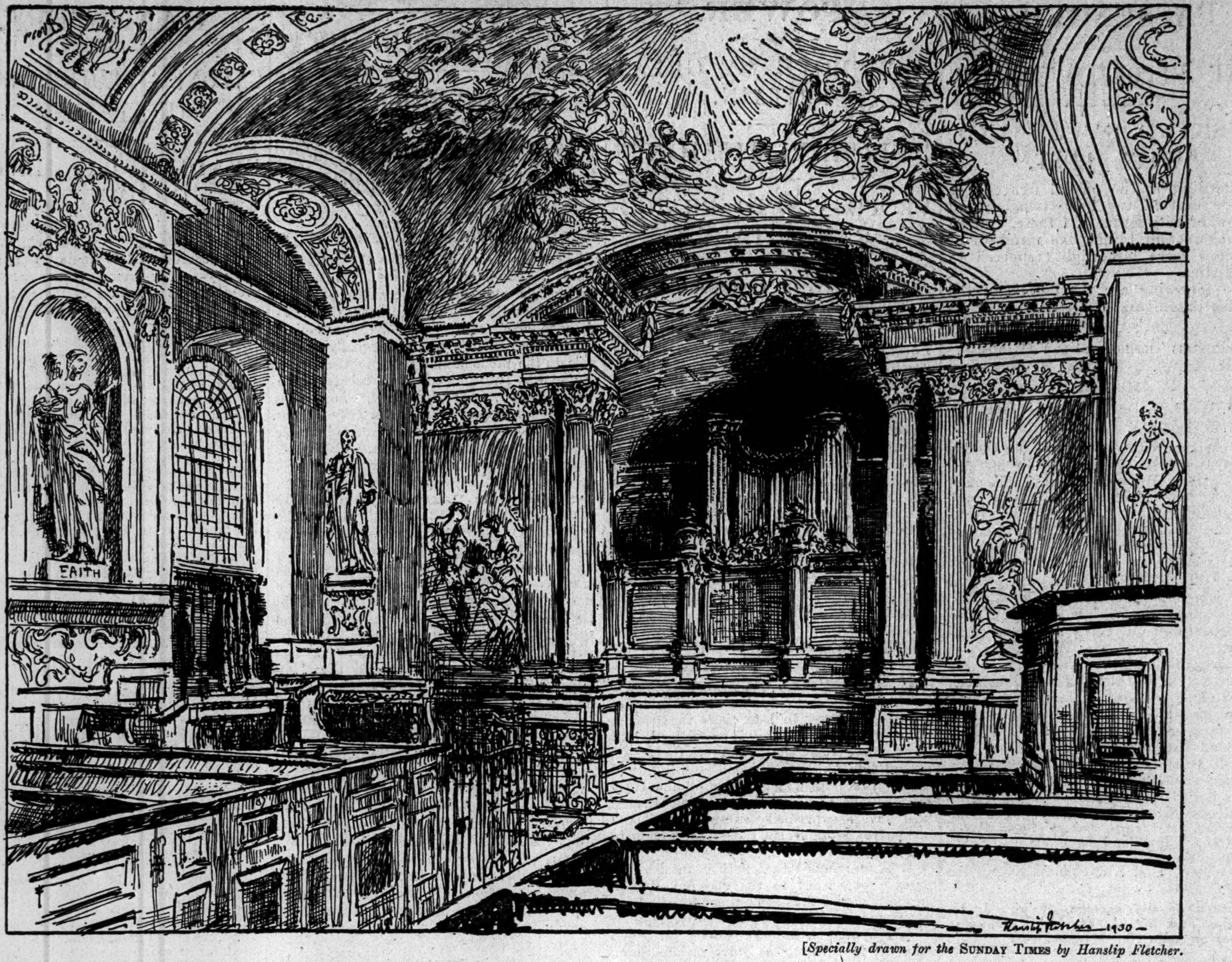
WHERE HANDEL WAS ORGANIST.



[Specially drawn for the SUNDAY TIMES by Hanslip Fletcher.

The baroque interior of St. Lawrence, Whitchurch, Edgware, where Handel was organist from 1718 to 1721. He also directed the music at the Duke of Chandos's Palace at Cannons, near Edgware, where he wrote the Chandos Anthems and other works. The organ Handel used (he composed "The Messiah" twenty years later, although modernised, is still in use. There has been a Church here since 1540, and the original tower remains.

SHOOTING DRAMA IN BARRACKS.

SECOND MAN DIES FROM WOUNDS.

INQUEST OPENED.

The inquest was opened at Tidworth yesterday on Maurice Archibald Bell, aged 23, a trooper in the Royal Scots Greys, who on Thursday was found shot dead in Moltan Barracks. Jack Healey, a civilian barber, of Faberstown, near Ludgershall, who was also shot, died yesterday from his wounds.

Bell, who had been in the regiment for about two years, was due to go on draft for India.

Lance-Corporal David Laverock, the Royal Scots Greys, who found Bell's body, said, "On Thursday night I was in the corporals' mess when I was asked, as lance-corporal, to give a hand for first aid. I ran to the barber's shop.

"I had been told that someone had given Bell a 'wallop.' I saw the body lying on the floor. My first impression was that he had been slashed by a razor. There was no one else in the barber's shop. I saw a small case and some papers lying either on a chair or on the floor. I saw a revolver lying on the floor."

Trooper John Pollock, the Scots Greys, said that he was walking past the ordnance block about 8.10 p.m when he saw a man in civilian clothes come from the bath-house door. Someone called "Oh, my leg." He found Healey lying on the floor. He thought the man was drunk. He tried to get Healey on his feet, but could not manage it, and called for assistance.

TWO FATAL WOUNDS.

Major Thomas Parr, R.A.M.C., said that Bell had a bullet wound, with blackened edges, on the right side of his face between the ear and the eye. "It struck me at first," added the Major, "that it was a case of suicide, but then I noticed that he was holding a door knob in his hand. The knob had come off the door of the barber's saloon. I noticed, too, a pistol lying on the floor about a yard from Bell's head.

"Letters were strewn over the floor, and there was an open case on the table. I saw a bullet mark on the wall above the soldier. I found four penetrating bullet wounds in the body, two of which would certainly have killed the man instantly."

The inquest was adjourned until Tuesday.

POLISH LEADER RELEASED.

WARSAW, Saturday.

M. Korfanty, leader of the Ultra Polish Party in Upper Silesia, who was recently arrested, was released to-day following the petition of the Silesian Diet in his favour.

The arrest of Korfanty was due to his alleged participation in outrages against certain German nationals.—Reuter.

LATE NEWS

OBERON DISASTER.

RADIO APPEAL TO SEARCH FOR SURVIVORS.

A Reuter message from Stockholm this morning stated that Stockholm Broadcast Station last night issued an appeal for a search for possible survivors of the Oberon.

It was stated that survivors might be adrift in lifeboats, or clinging to buoys or pieces of wreckage, and drifting with the current towards the Swedish coast. All ships in those waters, and inhabitants along the coast were therefore asked to keep a sharp look-out.

UNDER POLAR ICEFIELD.

PLANS FOR SUBMARINE ADVENTURE.

2,100 MILES VOYAGE

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Preparations for Sir Hubert Wilkins's 2,100 miles voyage beneath the North Polar ice from Spitzbergen to the Behring Sea are nearing completion, and, according to Commander Sloan Danenhower, who will have charge of the submarine Nautilus, the expedition will be ready to start next spring.

Commander Danenhower returned to New York yesterday from France, whither he had gone to invite Jean Jules Verne, grandson of the famous author, to officiate at the christening of the former U.S. Navy submarine O12 next February in Philadelphia.

Before the Nautilus leaves for Norway tests will be made under the ice off Nova Scotia.

Commander Danenhower is confident of the success of the expedition, as the craft is equipped with every possible scientific device to ensure the safety of the eighteen men who will comprise the crew. He expects an average voyage of fifty miles a day under the Polar ice. The vessel will come to the surface every twenty-four hours to make observations and report wherever practicable. The chief object of the expedition is to chart the curve of the ocean bed in the vicinity of the North Pole.

MILITARIST FILM.

POLICE GUARD AT BERLIN THEATRE.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BERLIN, Saturday.

The nine o'clock performance of the new film, "Flute Concert in Sans Souci," was given without disturbance, and a full house cheered vociferously every military incident shown, especially the parade of Frederick the Great's Grenadiers before his Potsdam Palace, and the parade music.

The genuine military spirit is given in the incidents which take place just before the commencement of the Seven Years' War; but if such disgraceful scenes had not been enacted by the Berlin Fascists in their endeavour to prevent the public from seeing the film taken from Remarque's book, "All Quiet on the Western Front," the presentation of this new Frederick the Great film would probably have attracted no more than ordinary attention.

The whole theatre was guarded, inside and outside, by police, who were also stationed in the gangways and at all the doors.

The action of the police during yesterday's first performance is criticised, as a Police Major addressed the audience and declared that persons who objected to the film should leave the building. This is regarded as an infringement of the right of spectators to express their disapproval if they feel inclined to do so.

BARONET M.F.H. HURT WHILE HUNTING.

ROLLED ON BY HORSE.

Sir Ian Heathcoat-Amory, Master of Tiverton Foxhounds, was seriously injured yesterday, when he was thrown from his horse, following a meet at Witheridge. His horse stumbled in a rabbit hole and rolled on him.

Sir Ian was taken to his home at Knightshayes Court, Tiverton, where specialists are in attendance.

Sir Ian, who is 65, is managing director of Messrs. John Heathcoat and Co., lace manufacturers, of Tiverton, and is a director of the Alliance Assurance Co. He has taken a prominent part in the public life of Tiverton and the county of Devon, of which he was High Sheriff in 1924. He has been Master of the Tiverton pack since 1911.

THE QUEEN'S GIFT.

Queen Mary has sent a gift of toys for distribution among the child patients in the Richmond Royal Hospital.

LOST STEAMER.

WIFE BELOW WHEN SHIP SANK.

HUSBAND'S ORDEAL.

Continued from page 11.

Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas was the head of Messrs. John H. Douglas and Company, timber merchants, whose London offices are in Bishopsgate. He had been on business in Finland for several weeks, and was making the return journey with his father, formerly head of the firm, in order to join his family for Christmas.

Throughout the day anxious inquiries regarding the Douglases were made at their homes and at the London offices of the firm. Mrs. Douglas (junior) kept an anxious vigil by the telephone hoping that each successive call received at her home at Theydon Bois would bring news of her husband.

Mr. Tipping, of Sherrads, Knoll Road, Godalming, told a SUNDAY TIMES representative yesterday that he received the following cable from his daughter:—

"Oberon sank in four minutes, saved."—Phyllis.

RELIEF TO FAMILY.

"It came as a great relief to me and my family to learn that she was safe," he added.

"I have, of course," said Mr. Tipping, "taken every step to replenish my daughter's needs, for I can imagine that if the vessel sank in four minutes there was not any time to think about clothing or securing one's belongings. She apparently has lost everything—but is safe; and that is all that matters." His daughter, he said, was an assistant-secretary at the American consulate at Helsingfors, and was returning home for the Christmas holiday. She is aged 23.

It is feared that the Mr. Vickers reported missing is a member of the staff of Messrs. George Horsley and Company, timber merchants, of West Hartlepool. The firm received a telegram yesterday stating that Mr. Vickers, who was aged about 30, was on the Oberon.

Mr. Vickers, who was employed at Messrs. Horsley's Finland branch, was coming home for his Christmas holiday. He was unmarried.

Late last night Mr. J. R. Martin, of Beckenham, father of Mr. Ernest Martin, one of the survivors, had a telephonic conversation with his son in Copenhagen. Mr. E. Martin described the scene following the collision and how he found himself in the sea.

When the accident occurred he was talking to Mr. Douglas and his son, and was probably the last man to see them before the ship went down. Mrs. Martin, his wife, was below when the ship heeled over, and he did not see her again.

Mr and Mrs. Martin had been married about three years.

LEAGUE OF YOUTH.

HAPPY RALLY AT OLYMPIA.

A happy Christmas spirit reigned at Olympia last night, when the "Daily Sketch" League of Youth celebrated their first rally at Mr. Bertram Mills's Circus.

There were 6,000 members present, eloquent proof of the popularity this organisation has already attained, and the vast arena rang with the delighted voices of boys and girls.

The programme, which included English, Irish, and Scottish items, and several from America and the Continent, captivated all.

Whimsical Walker, the veteran clown, was received with rapturous applause, and it was a delight to watch the performances of Mr. Willy Schumann's troupe of horses.

Mr. Carl Brisson, the film and stage star, one of the latest recruits to the League of Youth was to have led the forty-nine kilted members of the Boys' Pipe Band from Queen Victoria's School, Dunblane, and the fourteen Cuthbertson "kilties" in singing the "Song of the Donjeroos" to the accompaniment of the Olympia Orchestra, but unfortunately he was delayed at a matinée performance.

DUKE WITH STABLE LADS.

The Duke of Norfolk presided over the Stable Lads' Boxing Tournament at Lewes, last night, in aid of the Tide Mills Orthopædic Hospital for Children, Bishopstone, Sussex.

The lads were principally from the training stables at Epsom and Newmarket.

MOTOR CAR IN FLAMES.

ESCAPE FROM BURNING WRECKAGE.

TWO MEN INJURED

Two motorists had a narrow escape last night, when their car fell down an incline at the roadside on Barnes Common, overturned, and caught fire.

Following a slight collision with another car near the Southern Railway bridge on the common, the motor-car swerved and fell about five feet down an embankment. The car overturned, and almost before the occupants could crawl out, burst into flames. Other motorists, who pulled up, helped to drag them clear of the blazing wreckage. The car was practically destroyed

Both men—Mr. H. R. T. Hitchens, aged 30, of Beaumont Road, Twickenham, the driver, and Charles Lamming, aged 60, who is staying at Richmond, the passenger, were taken to West London Hospital, but were able to leave after treatment.

The Fire Brigade was called, but when they got there the fire had practically burnt itself out.

ELEVEN HURT IN CRASH.

Eleven persons were injured in a collision last night between a Newcastle motor-coach and a motor-lorry on the main Barnet to St. Albans road near South Mimms. Both vehicles were damaged, and the coach passengers were injured by flying glass. Eleven persons, including the lorry driver, were taken by ambulance to hospital at Barnet.

Five passengers were slightly injured yesterday when an omnibus skidded and collided with the signpost of an hotel at Fore Street, Edmonton.

George Wilson, aged 20, of Church Lawford, near Coventry, was killed and his pillion rider, Miss Doris Jupwell, of Binley, was seriously injured in a motor-cycle accident near Brandon, Warwickshire, last night. The couple were found lying on the road near the overturned cycle.

TRAGEDY FOLLOWS BIG FIGHT.

ONE OF MEEN'S BACKERS KILLED ON LINE.

It was revealed yesterday that Mr. G. C. Berry, of Springfield, Great Bowden, Leicester, who was killed by a train at King's Cross Metropolitan Railway Station on Friday, was one of the chief backers of Reggie Meen, the boxer, in his fight with Carnera.

Mr. Berry, who was 47, was a chartered accountant. He travelled to London with Meen for his fight with Carnera on Thursday morning, and saw the boxer off to Market Harborough from St. Pancras. Several hours after the fight Mr. Berry was found terribly injured on the line at King's Cross Metropolitan railway station, only a short distance from St. Pancras. He died on the way to the Royal Free Hospital.

An inquest will be held to-morrow.

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

The Paris Police have issued instructions to summon all owners of unsilenced motorcycles.

The wireless telephone service between Java and Australia will be officially opened on Tuesday.

The Dowager Queen Marie of Rumania and Princess Ileana have returned to Bukharest from Belgrade.

An emphatic denial has been issued in Sophia of the reported engagement of Princess Eudoxia, the sister of King Boris.

The body of Mr. M. G. Gardiner, one of the oldest members of the British Colony in Paris, has been found in the Seine at Sartrouville, near Paris.

All hope has now been abandoned for the Harburg motor-ship Irmgard, which left Copenhagen on September 26, and of which no word has since been heard.

A seaplane carrying three N.C.O.'s collided with the cable of an observation balloon at Brest and fell into the harbour. One man was killed and his two companions seriously injured.

CHRISTMAS MAILS DAMAGED.

When the Paddington to Plymouth express was running into Templemeads (Bristol) early yesterday the engine struck a lorry loaded with Christmas mail bags which was being hauled across the line by a postman. The lorry was smashed and the mails scattered and damaged, but the postman escaped injury.

THE £100 CAR.

SIR WILLIAM MORRIS'S NEW TWO-SEATER.

50 M.P.H.—40 M.P.G.

The £100 motor-car has arrived. It is to be put on the market shortly by Morris Motors, Ltd.

"It will be called the Morris Minor S.V. two-seater," said Sir William Morris yesterday. "I am taking this step because I believe that it is particularly in a time of industrial difficulty that vigorous efforts to improve trade generally should be made.

"The introduction of this new model will give employment, I confidently anticipate, to a large number of British workmen, as well as provide comfortable and reliable motoring for many members of the public.

"The new car is in no sense an unorthodox production. It is larger than many small cars seen on the roads to-day. The engine differs from that of the ordinary Morris Minor in that it has side-by-side valves instead of the overhead valves and cam shaft. It is fully equipped with three-speeds, four-wheel brakes, speedometer, Triplex glass screen, windscreen wiper, driving mirror, hood, side curtains, and hood bag, has ample luggage accommodation, concealed spare wheel, full-length frame with semi-elliptic springs and adjustable shock absorbers. Electric lighting and starting are, of course, included.

SPEED AND ECONOMY.

"The new car has a speed of upwards of 50 m.p.h. with driver and passenger, and does over forty miles to the gallon. I am making arrangements immediately for getting this model into production, but it will be a few weeks before the full rate of output is available.

"This new car has been particularly designed to meet the requirements of those motorists who prefer entirely to look after their own cars. For instance, decarbonisation and valve adjustment are very simple, and it can be justly said that the Morris Minor S.V. two-seater in every sense of the term is an extremely economical car to run. It has undergone more than six months' secret testing of the most rigorous kind, and I am very pleased with its behaviour."

The new car is finished in naval grey with red upholstering and lining. The body is coach built, and has a cellulose finish.

BANNED ITALIANS

ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE AT SYDNEY.

SYDNEY, Saturday.

Just before the Orient liner Orford sailed on its homeward voyage, the Italian immigrants who have been prohibited from landing attempted to escape and get into the city. They rushed on to the wharf, but the promptitude of Customs officials in closing the gates frustrated this move.

The captain of the Orford tactfully persuaded the immigrants to come on board again, and the Orford then sailed without further trouble. Five immigrants, however, are still missing.

Similar trouble was avoided on the Orient liner Otranto, thanks to tactful handling of the situation by the police. The ship later anchored in midstream before sailing for Brisbane.

The Orford arrived here on December 3, and sixty-six Italians who did not come into the category of approved suitable immigrants were not allowed to land. They demanded to go on to Brisbane, to which port their passages had been paid, but fifty-two of them were prohibited from landing there.—Reuter.

WOMAN ALONE IN WILDS.

CANOE VOYAGE UP THE AMAZON.

VAMPIRE PERIL.

LIFE IN HANDS OF NATIVES.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BUXTON, Saturday.

Remarkable stories of adventure in the South American wilds were related to me to-day by Mrs. Violet Cressy-Marcks, in discussing her latest exploring expedition.

Mrs. Cressy-Marcks has travelled in Russia, Arabia, Turkey, and many other countries, and has had many narrow escapes from death, but few of her journeys can have been more hazardous than her recent trip through the South American jungle.

"My aim," she said, "was to follow the course of the Amazon to its source, cross the Andes, and reach Lima. The first part of the journey was by launch, and when I left the launch I had to continue with canoes."

Mrs. Cressy-Marcks took with her a quantity of equipment, including mapping and astronomical apparatus, and in her baggage were volumes of Plato and Aristotle and a Bible.

Once she left the launch she was soon hundreds of miles from the nearest white man or woman, and her only companions were the members of Indian tribes who acted as her guides and carriers. "If I had not found the natives friendly," she remarked, "I should not be here now."

"SWIMMING FOR IT."

"The canoes were each propelled by five natives with long poles, and sometimes their task was so hard that I had to take a turn with a pole. We had to fight against terrific currents and rapids, in which rocks were partly hidden, and sometimes without any warning a canoe would be upset and the luggage and the canoe-boys thrown into the river. I had to swim for it several times.

"One of the worst things I had to contend with was the vampire bat. They swarmed over the camp at night. Sometimes masks had to be worn as a protection against deadly insects."

The lonely journey took eleven months. Very shortly Mrs. Cressy-Marcks will be off again, this time to Southern Arabia.

M. POINCARE PULLING THROUGH.

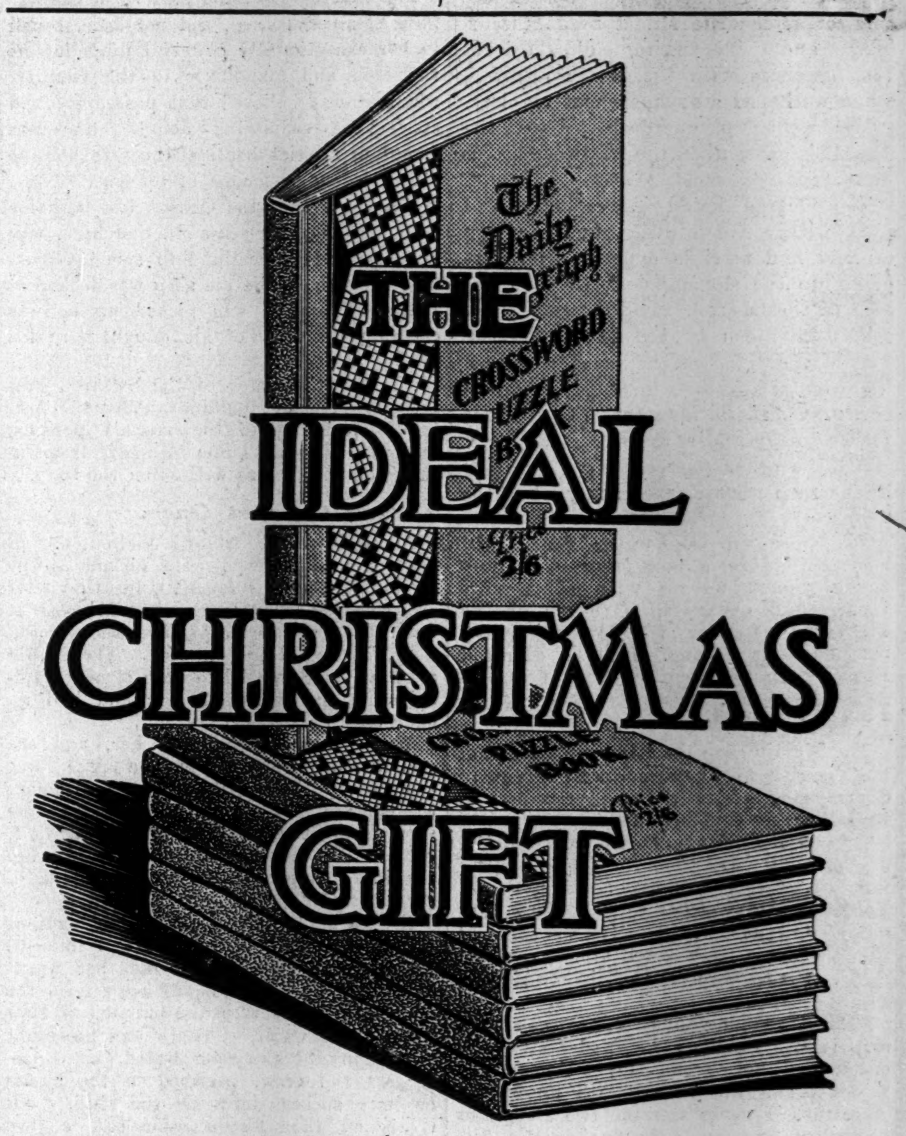
ANOTHER GOOD NIGHT.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, Saturday.

After a period of serious anxiety, it can now be stated that M. Poincaré's medical advisers consider him to be out of immediate danger. During the past forty-eight hours there has been a steady improvement in his condition, but he must still have absolute rest.

This condition is difficult to enforce on so active a man as the ex-President. It may be remembered that after the serious operation of last year it was almost impossible to prevent M. Poincaré from following current events with his usual keenness, and he was asking for newspapers long before his doctors considered it advisable to allow them.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Daily Telegraph
FLEET STREET, E.C.4.

Court Circular.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, Saturday.

To-day is the anniversary of the birthday of the Prince George.

The Earl of Cromer (Lord Chamberlain) had an audience of the King this morning.

145, PICCADILLY.

The Duchess of York, attended by the Lady Helen Graham, was present at the Christmas Party of the St. Martin Association, which was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, this afternoon.

Princess Helena Victoria, who will spend Christmas with the Marquess and Marchioness of Londonderry at Wynyard Park, Stockton-on-Tees, will leave London on Wednesday.

Princess Marie Louise will leave London on Tuesday for Lyndridge, Bishop's Teignton, Devon, to spend Christmas with Lady Cable.

The Italian Ambassador leaves London to-day for Rome, where his marriage with Donna Diana Theodoli Piercy will be celebrated on January 15.

The Minister of the Hedjaz and Nejd will be At Home at the Hyde Park Hotel on January 8 from 4 to 6 p.m. to celebrate the anniversary of the Accession of his Majesty King Abdul Azeez al Saoud.

The Duke of Abercorn, Governor of Northern Ireland, will leave 68, Mount Street, to-day, on his return to Baron's Court, County Tyrone.

The Earl and Countess of Inchcape leave London to-day for Egypt.

Viscount and Viscountess Esher will leave 21, Hill Street this week for Wallington Park, Oxon.

Viscount and Viscountess Dunedin have left London for Palestine, and will be away for about three weeks.

Lady Beauchamp will leave 26, Grosvenor Place this week for the Continent.

Lady Fairhaven will leave 37, Park Street on Tuesday for Anglesey Abbey, Cambridge, where she will spend Christmas.

Lord Carrington was 39 yesterday and Lord Dormer 27; the Marquess of Tavistock is 42 to-day.

Lord Michelham will arrive at Plymouth to-morrow from New York.

Captain the Hon. Henry Denison will leave 72, Upper Berkeley Street to-morrow for Cowes.

Brigadier-General Sir Joseph Byrne will be the chief guest at the East Africa dinner at the Savoy Hotel on January 14, when Sir Charles Bowring will preside.

Lieut.-Colonel W. W. Ashley, M.P., and Mrs. Ashley are entertaining a big house party at their seat, Broadlands, Romsey (Hants), this week-end The guests include the Marquess of Reading, the Earl of Clarendon, Viscount Brentford, Viscount and Viscountess Elibank, Viscount Mountgarret, Lady Bridges, Admiral Sir Roger Keyes, Mrs. Harold Baring, and Mr. R. D. Blumenfeld.

WEDDING.

LIEUT.-COMDR. ELLIS AND MISS KATHLEEN MARY LEWIS.

A wedding of naval interest which took place quietly yesterday afternoon was that of Lieut.-Comdr. Thomas Ellis, Royal Navy, only son of the late Mr. Richard Ellis, of Abbeyfeale, County Limerick, and Mrs. Ellis, of 1, St. George's Road, Bedford, and Miss Kathleen Mary Lewis, daughter of the late Mr. Herbert T. Lewis, and Mrs. Lewis, of 85, Cadogan Gardens. Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, was chosen for the ceremony, at which the Chaplain of the Fleet, the Venerable Archdeacon W. K. Knight-Adkin, officiated.

Miss Lewis wore a graceful frock of parchment satin beauté, the long-sleeved bodice of which was moulded to fit her figure. Her fluted skirt reached to the ground, and her train was composed of exquisite old Brussels lace, while a wreath of orange flowers secured her cream tulle veil. She carried a sheaf of arum lilies, and she was attended by one bridesmaid, Miss Betty Courtauld.

No official reception was held after the ceremony, but Mrs. Lewis received a few relatives and intimate friends of the bride and bridegroom at her residence, 85, Cadogan Gardens. Later in the day Lieut.-Comdr. and Mrs. Thomas Ellis left London for their honeymoon, which they are spending on the Continent.

OBITUARY.

THE HON. VICTOR ALEXANDER BRUCE.

The funeral will take place to-day, at Rosyth Churchyard, of the Hon. Victor Alexander Bruce, younger son of the late Earl of Elgin and Kincardine and a brother of the present Earl, who died on Friday at Broomhall. He was formerly a lieutenant in the 11th Hussars and served throughout the war.

In April last year he married Miss Maude Rudolff Sneddon, daughter of Mrs. H. R. Sneddon, of Riga.

PROFESSOR JOHN MUNRO.

The death is announced of Professor John Munro, M.Sc., Emeritus Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Bristol University, aged 81. Born in Ross-shire, Mr. Munro studied at the Trade and Mining School, Bristol, where subsequently he became lecturer. He was for many years on the staff of the Merchant Venturers' Technical College, Clifton, and later Professor of Mechanical and Mining Engineering at Bristol University. He retired in 1919.

FUNERALS.

MR. R. L. LAWSON.

The funeral took place at Kensal Green cemetery yesterday of Mr. Reginald Lawrence Lawson, owner of Saltwood Castle, who was found shot in the Castle grounds. Viscount Burnham, a cousin of Mr. Lawson, and near relatives were present.

The service was conducted by the Rector of Saltwood, the Rev. D. G. Macpherson.

MARY LADY SEMPILL.

The funeral of Mary Lady Sempill takes place at Leochel-Cushnie Churchyard, Aberdeenshire, to-morrow, after service at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Inverness.

ADMIRAL WOOLLCOMBE.

The funeral of Admiral Maurice Woollcombe, who commanded the Valiant at Jutland, takes place at St. Gabriel's Church, Plymouth, to-morrow, at 12.15.

PREBENDARY C. C. PARKER.

The funeral of Prebendary Claud Campbell Parker, who died on Thursday at Corston, Bristol, will take place to-morrow.

Prebendary Parker had been rector of Corston for twenty-seven years and Prebendary of Wells since 1924.

MRS. AXHAM.

The funeral of Mrs. Axham, of Norbury, widow of Dr. F. W. Axham, will take place at Mitcham Parish Church at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The charge for Society Announcements on this page is one guinea for three lines or less and 5s. for each line after. A line contains about seven words. All announcements are subject to editorial approval, and should be addressed to the Social Editor, "Sunday Times," 135, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

COLLEGE HOSPITAL DILEMMA.

DOCTOR'S BAN ON WOMEN STUDENTS.

£43,000 BEQUEST AT STAKE

The governors of King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E., are to consider next month the will of Dr. Thomas Percy Legg, a Harley Street surgeon, the terms of which threaten to deprive the medical school of the college of a bequest of £43,000.

Dr. Legg was at one time a surgeon and lecturer at the hospital. Under his will, Dr. Legg, who died in October last, leaving £65,000, provided for the income from his estate to be divided among four sisters and a brother. On the death of the last of these members of his family he directed that the residue of the property should be given to King's College Hospital in the proportion of one-third to the hospital and two-thirds to the medical school.

But the bequest to the school was made subject to the condition that the Governors would not admit or continue to admit women students after the date of the will. The will is dated February 27, 1930, but the school had a month previously withdrawn its veto on women students and since then they have been freely admitted. At that time, however, there was no knowledge of the provisional bequest contained in Dr. Legg's will, probate of which has just been granted.

It was learned yesterday that, whilst the legal matter would no doubt be considered after the holidays, the question of disturbing the present practice concerning the admission of women students was hardly likely to be raised.

WIRELESS AID IN CENSUS.

COST OF COUNTING THE PEOPLE.

After an interval of ten years, a census is to be taken in Great Britain on Sunday, April 26.

In 1921, when the last census was taken, the population was 42,767,739. It is believed that the census next year will reveal an increase of two or three millions.

The information obtained throws an interesting light on the changes which have taken place in the life of the nation. It will show to what extent women are replacing men in offices, workshops, and factories.

In the forthcoming census the person filling up the return must state whether he or she is "out of work." Apart from this innovation the questions to be answered are similar to those in previous returns.

People living in Scotland must declare, in respect of persons over 3 years of age, whether they speak Gaelic only or both Gaelic and English. A similar provision applies to Wales in regard to the Welsh language.

The country will be sub-divided into 40,000 enumeration districts, and it is expected that the cost of the census will be about £500,000. Arrangements have been made to secure the accuracy of the census. The police will go into the highways and byways and obtain returns from gypsies, tramps and people who might be overlooked by the enumerators.

Sorting and counting machines will be used at Somerset House, where the gigantic task of compiling an analysis of the returns is undertaken. The first census in Great Britain was taken in 1801, when the population was only 10,500,956.

Wireless may be utilised to explain to the public how the forms should be filled in. It is hoped that the Registrar-General will be able to broadcast a message which will prove helpful to thousands of people.

CULT OF LONDON SOCIETY.

PROGRAMME OF PALACE VISITS.

The old oak-panelled room of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, was a fitting setting yesterday for the annual meeting of the Cult of London Society, which was founded by Mrs. Hylton Dale in 1913. Since then the members have made many official visits to places of historic interest in London, particularly in the City.

The rector of St. Mary-le-Bow, Prebendary Ponsonby, is president of the society, and a donation of a guinea was made from the meeting towards the repairs necessary to the church before Bow Bells can ring out again.

Mrs. Hylton Dale, who, in addition to being the founder, is the honorary secretary and treasurer, read the 1930 report, including an account of some of the most interesting expeditions undertaken by the members.

The visits arranged for 1931 make a "Programme of Palaces," for they include St. James's Palace, Hampton Court, Kew Palace, Royal Hospital, Tower of London, Kensington Palace, and the People's Palace, Mile End Road.

Among those present at the meeting were Sir Leopold Swaine, who celebrated his ninetieth birthday a few days ago, Mr. W. C. Sewell (Common Councillor of the City of London), Miss Crosby, Mr. E. Watson, Mr. W. Cawthrop, Mr. T. W. Orritt, and Mr. Caulfield.

LORD BURGHLEY AS CANDIDATE.

Lord Burghley, the famous hurdler, is to be proposed at a meeting of the Peterborough Divisional Conservative Association to succeed Mr. Jas. Fitzwilliam as prospective candidate in opposition to the sitting member Mr. J. F. Horrabin (Socialist).

ROOM FOR UNEMPLOYED.

The Law and General Purposes Committee of Battersea Borough Council have agreed to recommend to the Council that representations be made to the Ministry of Labour in support of a request that the unemployed be allowed the use of a room at Battersea Employment Exchange on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in each week, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., for meetings.

A TENNIS WEDDING.

The wedding took place at Handsworth parish church, Birmingham, yesterday, of Mr. John Pennycuick, barrister, of London, and Miss Lucy Johnstone, of Handsworth.

The bride is captain of the Warwickshire Women's Lawn Tennis team, and the bridegroom is a member of the Surrey Lawn Tennis team. Miss Johnstone has held the Warwickshire championship for the last three years.

A CHILDREN'S MATINEE.

A party of 1,100 children will attend the matinée of "Where the Rainbow Ends" at the Holborn Empire to-morrow. They will be mainly children of ex-Servicemen, with a number of war orphans, and are the guests of Signor Itali Conti, who is responsible for the production. They are being gathered together by the British Legion and Women's Section from their branches in the poorer districts of London.

Viscount Field-Marshal Sir Edmund Allenby and Lady Allenby will be present, also Colonel John Brown (national chairman of the British Legion) and Major J. B. Brunel Cohen, M.P. (national vice-chairman), and Lady Edward Spencer Churchill (chairman, Women's Section, British Legion).

The Countess Haig had hoped to be present, but she will be with her family in Scotland.

NEW HIGHWAYS OF BEAUTY.

AVENUES OF TREES ON ARTERIAL ROADS.

GOOD PROGRESS.

A communiqué issued by the Ministry of Transport yesterday states that good progress is being made in the planting of trees along the new arterial roads, a fact which is very encouraging to all who hope that eventually the new roads will become as beautiful as the ancient winding lanes that they are rapidly superseding.

The planting of an avenue or group of trees is, however, only the first step in a lengthy process which must be patiently and steadily pursued for several years. Young trees need careful nursing and unremitting attention. From time to time they require re-staking, the ground round them must not be stifled with weeds, trees injured by gales or wilful damage must be replaced.

As one drives along our roads it is often disheartening to see the lack of care and interest displayed in trees and shrubs, once the planting has taken place. Such neglect is wasteful; for want of proper maintenance the whole initial outlay is sometimes jeopardised, and it is earnestly to be hoped that all local authorities will, during the coming months, devote careful attention to the upkeep of wayside trees and shrubs, so that all losses and gaps may be made good before next summer. Expenditure under this head on Class I. and Class II. roads is eligible for grants of 60 per cent. and 50 per cent. respectively from the Road Fund.

DAMAGE BY BUILDERS.

More might, it is felt, be done to check damage due to building operations along new arterial roads. The verges have usually been carefully levelled and sown with grass, as part of the initial work of construction, but stacks or heaps of bricks are often dumped on these spaces and deep ruts formed, with the result that the grass is ruined, trees are broken, and the appearance of the roadside is ruined. There can be no justification for this misuse of highways which have been laid out at the public expense for public enjoyment and use, and prompt measures should be taken by local authorities to repress offences of this kind.

STREETS BANNED TO MOTOR COACHES

A CORRECTED LIST.

The Secretary to the Ministry of Transport made the following announcement last night:—

In the notice relating to the proposed Regulations for the restriction of motor-coach traffic in Central London issued to the Press on Friday, the list of streets bounding the outer restricted area was given incorrectly as regards the south side of the river and also the line between King's Cross and Old Street.

The outer area as proposed to be defined in the Draft Regulations is as follows:—

"The area enclosed within the following streets, but excluding those streets:—Euston Road, Marylebone Road, Edgware Road, Marble Arch, Park Lane, Hamilton Place, Piccadilly, Hyde Park Corner, Grosvenor Place, Grosvenor Gardens, Buckingham Palace Road, Eccleston Bridge, Belgrave Road, Gillingham Street, Vauxhall Bridge Road, Vauxhall Bridge, Albert Embankment, Lambeth Road, St. George's Circus, Borough Road, Borough High Street, Trinity Street, Great Dover Street, Old Kent Road, Tower Bridge Road, Tower Bridge, Tower Bridge Approach, Mansell Street, Royal Mint Street, Leman Street, Commercial Street, Great Eastern Street, Old Street, City Road, Pentonville Road.

R101 SURVIVOR.

ENGINEER ON CAPTAIN CAMPBELL'S NEW CAR.

Mr. H. J. Leech, one of the survivors of the R101 disaster, having received special leave from the Air Ministry, is joining Captain Malcolm Campbell as one of his engineers for the forthcoming attack on the land speed record of the world.

Mr. Leech was awarded the Albert Medal for his gallantry at the time of the airship crash. He has now completely recovered from his injuries and burns and will accompany Captain Campbell when he leaves this country to make his attempt, possibly early in the New Year.

Mr. Leech has a very wide knowledge of racing cars and engineering. He was with Captain Campbell on all his first record-breaking achievements from 1921 to 1925, and was closely associated with previous high-speed cars built for and driven by the famous racing motorist. He has also assisted Captain Campbell during many of his successes at Brooklands.

When Mr. Leech heard that Captain Campbell was to make another record-breaking venture he obtained leave to go as engineer for the new "hush-hush" Napier-Campbell car.

TWO-SIDED FOOTBALL STAND.

A football stand with two sides, one being used by the Finchley Association Football Club and the other by the Finchley Rugby Club, was opened yesterday by Sir Frederick Wall, secretary of the Football Association.

The stand, which has been erected at the cost of £8,000, contains some of the most up-to-date dressing accommodation in the country.

£55 FOR AIR STAMP ERROR.

A collection of stamps given by philatelists was sold by auction at Mr. H. R. Harmer's, Old Bond Street, to raise funds for a stamp-collectors' cot in Charing Cross Hospital. The sale realised over £400.

The highest price obtained was £55 for a newly discovered error in the 3d. air mail stamp of Papua. This was found recently in an unbroken sheet containing ten of the errors, which are all the examples known. Mr. R. Roberts, the Strand dealer, who discovered the stamp, presented it to the hospital.

MISS MARY BORDEN.

Miss Mary Borden, the novelist, who arrived at Southampton yesterday in the White Star liner Majestic, stated that oil had been discovered on some land she and her husband, Brigadier-General Spears, had leased in the northern part of the State of Michigan.

On receipt of the news they sailed for America, and, on arrival, found that three oil wells and two natural gas jets were working at full pressure. A small company has been floated to develop the site. "It certainly looks a good thing, but you must not imagine that we are now millionaires," said the novelist.

OFFICERS IN HOLY ORDERS.

Two former Army officers, Major David Lloyd Brereton, D.S.O., of the Durham Light Infantry, and Captain William Lummis, M.C., of the Suffolk Regiment, are among the candidates for Holy Orders who will be ordained at Ipswich to-day by the Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

Major Brereton completed a full Army career. Captain Lummis commanded the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in the last action they fought on the Western Front. He recently resigned his commission.

ROYAL FAMILY'S CHRISTMAS.

SANDRINGHAM HOUSE GATHERING.

TREE FOR PRINCESS ELIZABETH.

DUKE OF GLOUCESTER ONLY ABSENTEE.

The King and Queen and the members of the Royal Family are spending Christmas at Sandringham House, in accordance with a custom which has been observed during the last two reigns. Their Majesties will leave Buckingham Palace shortly after twelve noon to-morrow, and travel to Wolferton by special train, reaching Sandringham shortly before tea-time. According to present arrangements the Court will remain at Sandringham until the end of January.

The King and Queen will this year have practically all their children and grandchildren with them. The Duke of Gloucester will be the only absentee, for he will be on the high seas, homeward bound from Abyssinia. The Prince of Wales and Prince George are expected to arrive at Sandringham on Christmas Eve, and the Duke and Duchess of York will travel to Norfolk probably on Tuesday, taking with them Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret. It is understood that Princess Mary and the Earl of Harewood, with their two sons, Lord Lascelles and the Hon. Gerald Lascelles, will join the Royal Party on next Wednesday.

On Wednesday afternoon there will be the usual distribution of gifts to the estate hands and members of the staff at Sandringham, and on Christmas Day the Royal party will attend service at the little church close by, where carols will be sung. The "Empire" Christmas pudding, made of ingredients produced within the Empire, will form a part of the menu at the Royal Christmas dinner.

On Boxing Day the King and Queen will, if the weather is good, take an opportunity of paying visits to old retainers on the Sandringham estate.

DUKE OF GLOUCESTER'S RETURN.

It is probable that the Prince of Wales and Prince George will take leave of the King and Queen on Saturday in order to be in town for the reception of the Duke of Gloucester, who is due to arrive at Victoria on the following day from Abyssinia.

After Christmas Their Majesties will entertain a number of house parties at Sandringham, but for the actual holiday only a few members of the Household will form the party outside the members of the Royal Family. The Queen is giving a Christmas tree for Princess Elizabeth, and during January a dance will be held, at which the estate personnel and tenants will be the guests.

Prince George, who was 28 yesterday, spent his birthday quietly in London.

He paid visits to a number of friends and lunched at Buckingham Palace with the King and Queen.

PRIME MINISTER'S HOLIDAY.

A REST AT CHEQUERS.

The intention of the delegates to the Round Table Conference at St. James's Palace is, the SUNDAY TIMES understands, to adjourn on Wednesday evening until the following Monday. One or two of the Committees will meet on the latter day, but on December 30 it is hoped to hold a plenary session of the delegates.

In view of the very short duration of the adjournment the Prime Minister has abandoned his original intention of spending Christmas at Lossiemouth, and with members of his family will spend the festival at Chequers. Mr. MacDonald is spending this week-end there, but returns to Downing Street to-night in readiness for the customary morning conference between the British representatives at St. James's Palace. The Prime Minister will go to Chequers on Christmas Eve and return the following Sunday.

Christmas promises to be a dull season for most of the Indian Ruling Princes who are over here for the Conference. Everyone connected with the Conference has felt the strain of the work. One or two of the Princes intend to make rapid trips to Paris, but most of the delegates are remaining quietly at their hotels, preferring this to travel or exertion of any kind.

STUDENTS' "RAGS."

UNIVERSITY'S MOVE FOR BETTER DISCIPLINE.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

EDINBURGH, Saturday.

With a view to controlling student activities and preventing "rags" from going too far, it is rumoured that an attempt will be made in the New Year to set up a disciplinary committee, composed of selected members of the student body, which will have powers, subject to the approval of the Court, to deal with any cases of such a description which may arise at University functions.

In the event of this being accepted, the recommendation of such a body would probably have to be unanimous. A committee of this description would serve as an instrument for expressing the general attitude of the students towards events which have in the past tended to bring the average student into disfavour with the general public.

HOUSES AT 7s. 6d. A WEEK.

One hundred and two houses, to be let at 7s. 6d. per week, exclusive of rates, are to be built in Dorking by the Workmen's Housing Association on ten acres of land, which the Dorking Urban District Council is selling to the association for £4,000.

FOREST SCHOOL PLAY.

"Henry IV., Part II." was performed by the boys at Forest School, near Snaresbrook, E.17, with marked success on two evenings last week.

This was the sixty-fourth play of Shakespeare produced by Foresters, and the histrionic talent displayed by the boys reached a high level The important rôle of Falstaff was entrusted to P. Campbell, whose spirited acting caused much merriment.

DEATH PENALTY DENOUNCED.

"If England feels that it is only the fear of death which prevents Englishmen from becoming a gradually increasing race of murderers, then she must no longer claim to be a leader in world civilisation," said Dr. Josiah Oldfield commenting yesterday on the report of the Select Committee on Capital Punishment.

"Whenever a man has been proved to be a menace to the safety or lives of his fellow-men he must be put under suitable treatment and retained under treatment until he is fit for the companionship of society," said Dr. Oldfield. "You should not let a man at large after ten or twenty years if he is still dangerous; he should not be retained as a burden on the State if he is cured after five years."

ATLANTIC FARES REDUCTIONS.

"SWEEPING" CUTS FOR LUXURY SUITES.

LINER'S FLAT FOR SIX AT £450.

Details were issued yesterday of the reductions which are to be made in "luxury" and first-class fares on the North Atlantic shipping routes as a consequence of the agreement reached at Brussels last week at the Atlantic Conference, which includes representatives from all the North Atlantic passenger shipping companies.

The Cunard Company give, as an illustration of the reductions, the new fares on the Berengaria, which are typical of the other vessels in the company's fleet. The old rate for what is known as a Prince of Wales's suite—a complete flat for one to five passengers—was £589 at winter rates. In the new schedule the corresponding price is £361 for one passenger, and £450 for one to six passengers. The summer rate for one to five passengers was £825. The reduced summer rate will be £675 for one passenger and £834 for one to six passengers.

The first-class fares have been cut as follows:—

AQUITANIA.—Old Rate: Winter £55, Summer £60 10s. New Rate: Winter £54, Summer £60.

MAURETANIA.—Old Rate: Winter £54, Summer £59 10s. New Rate: Winter £53, Summer £58 10s.

The White Star Line announce that the reductions in rates will affect their mail steamers Majestic, Olympic, and Homeric as follows:—

Suites which at winter rates formerly cost as much as £518, £306, or £236, are reduced to £296, £222, or £152.

Room with bath, formerly scheduled at £115, reduced to £72.

Minimum rates are also reduced, and on the Homeric a passage may be booked as low as £49 10s.

A round trip in one of the great suites of the world's largest twin screw steamer will now cost £444 less than before the reductions took effect.

In spite of these reductions the amenities offered on the luxury liners remain as before.

"POST EARLY."

50,000,000 CHRISTMAS LETTERS A DAY.

"Reasonable co-operation" by the public was asked for yesterday by the Postmaster-General (Mr. H. B. Lees-Smith), in a statement on postal arrangements for Christmas.

Last year, he said, an appeal to the public to post early was made in the Press and through the B.B.C., but the result was most disappointing. What actually happened was that nearly twice as many letters were posted on December 23 and 24 as had been posted on those days the year before.

"The strain upon the staff was intolerably severe," said Mr. Lees-Smith. "We do not want this to happen again. The public should know that the last day of posting in most districts for delivery before Christmas is Monday evening for parcels, and Tuesday noon for letters and Christmas cards.

"On a normal day we expect something like 17,000,000 letters, but at Christmas time we have to deal with 50,000,000 letters a day. To cope with this enormous increase in work we employ 30,000 additional assistants."

MANSION DESTROYED.

FIREMEN HANDICAPPED BY LACK OF WATER.

Newton House, Buckland, near Faringdon, Berkshire, a fine old country mansion, it was reported yesterday, was almost completely destroyed by fire during the night.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Leo Page, the owners, were away when a servant found one of the rooms on the ground floor ablaze. She called the Faringdon and Abingdon brigades, but although these were soon on the scene, the fire had gained a substantial hold. Villagers, attracted by the glare, hurried along and helped to save some of the valuable old furniture, but the heat became so intense that they were driven back before many valuable pieces could be carried to the lawn.

The firemen worked throughout the night, but with a water shortage, having to feed their hoses from a pond nearly half a mile away.

AGRICULTURE'S PERIL.

"POLITICAL CHLOROFORM" TO DOPE THE NATION.

The annual report of the Berkshire executive of the National Farmers' Union states:—

"To-day we are witnessing the collapse of cereal farming on large areas of land causing loss of employment to those engaged in it. The question is whether the legislature will move soon enough to keep in cultivation the present area of plough land or whether the decline will still proceed.

"Our dwindling markets and falling prices represent false values in terms of production, and adjustment is delayed because the nation is being doped with political chloroform to deaden its full realisation of the true state of affairs."

"NO-SOCIALIST" HOSPITAL.

The Dr. Kersham Bequest Cottage Hospital at Royton, in the management of which no minister or Socialist must have a part, is expected to be opened next year—twenty-two years after the bequest to found it was made.

Dr. Kershaw left £50,000 to build and endow the hospital, but owing to many difficulties leading to long delay the endowment fund has now increased to £60,000.

BRITISH SILVERWORK.

British silverwork exhibits are to be sent to the British Empire Trade Exhibition at Buenos Aires, and will be arranged in sixteen windows, each of which will represent a different phase of the industry, including sport, domestic plate, and agricultural trophies.

ADDISCOMBE CADET MEMORIAL.

Field-Marshal Sir Claud Jacob yesterday laid the foundation-stone of a side chapel which is being added to St. Martin's Church, Morland Road, Addiscombe, at a cost of about £2,300 as a memorial to the cadets of the East India Company who were trained at Addiscombe.

The church was opened in 1902 as an Addiscombe College memorial church. It is proposed to inscribe in the new chapel the names of the Addiscombe cadets whose relatives signify that they would appreciate this form of commemoration.

HENLEY SCHOOL'S NEW HEAD.

Mr. Leonard Charles Soar, Chief Mathematics and Physics Master of Whitgift Grammar School, Yorkshire, was yesterday appointed by the Governors of Henley-on-Thames Royal Grammar School to be Headmaster of the school in succession to Mr. J. H. J. Valpy, who retires next Easter, after occupying the position for nearly thirty years.

The new master, who is 31, was chosen from 169 applicants. He was educated at Alleyns School, Dulwich, and St. John's College, Cambridge.

FROM COOK'S BOY TO SMACK OWNER.

RISE TO FORTUNE.

JUDGE'S £5,000 BEQUEST TO HOUSEKEEPER.

Starting work as a cook's boy at the age of 11, William Robbens worked himself upwards until he became the founder and head of William Robbens and Sons, smack owners, of Lowestoft.

Mr. Robbens, who lived at Kirkley Park Road, Lowestoft, was chairman of the New Mutual and Total Loss Insurance Co., and of the Boiler and Engine and Small Damage Insurance Societies. He left £22,896 gross, with net personalty £8,975. Bequests include 55, Maidstone Road, Lowestoft, to his nephew, William Henry Brunson, "for faithful service."

£89,000 AND NO WILL.

No will was made by Mr. Philip Bernard Turnbull, of Penylan Road, Cardiff, a shipowner, whose estate has been sworn at £89,668, with net personalty £84,732.

A bequest of £5,000 to his housekeeper, Kate Locke, "who has been my friend and companion for over thirty years," was left by His Honour Millis Coventry, a retired county court judge, of West Drive, Streatham. Judge Coventry, who was the "father" of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, having rowed for Cambridge in 1860 and 1861, died at the age of 92, having estate valued at £24,615 with net personalty £21,574.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN.

Robert Schomberg Kerr, 10th Marquess of Lothian, left personal estate in England and Scotland valued at £401,174, of which £191,000 represents his holding in the Lothian Coal Co.

A bequest of £1,500 to Lord Haig's British Legion Appeal Fund is contained in the will of Mrs. Sarah Ada Toshach-MacGavin, of Point House Hotel, Blackheath, S.E., who left £12,396, with net personalty £9,037.

WHERE ROYALTY BOUGHT SWEETS.

Miss Henriette Adele Caroline Cameron, of Castle Hill, Windsor, who was formerly in the service of Princess Christian at Cumberland Lodge, and afterwards carried on business in a sweetstuff shop which was patronised by the Queen, Princess Mary, and other members of the Royal Family, left £556, with net personalty £511.

OTHER WILLS.

	GROSS VALUE.
WILLIAM JAMES GOODWIN, of Bailey's Hotel, Gloucester Road, Kensington, S.W. (net personalty £53,124)	£53,744
Mrs. AGNES PATERSON or KESWICK, of New Park, Annan, Dumfries-shire (personal estate in Great Britain)......	53,066
Mrs. MURIEL GWENDOLEN CEMLYN-JONES, of Upper Phillimore Gardens, Kensington, W., and of Tany-y-Foel, Penmaenmawr, Carnarvon, the first woman County Councillor for Carnarvonshire (net personalty £15,081)...	36,436
Miss MARGARET MAUD CAMPBELL, of Pennerley Lodge, Beaulieu, Brockenhurst, daughter of the late Col. Colin Campbell, C.B. (net personalty £30,675)	31,479
Dame ALICE MARGARET MACDONALD, of Queen's Gate, South Kensington, S.W., widow of Major-General Sir James R. L. Macdonald (net personalty £11,460)	11,595
Lieut.-General Sir EDWARD CECIL BETHUNE, of Eldon Road, Kensington, W., who took part in the Afghan War 1878-80, and raised and commanded Bethune's Horse during the South African War (unsettled property) (net personalty £2,271)	2,594

DUCHESS OF YORK.

GUEST OF LIMBLESS EX-SERVICEMEN.

The Duchess of York was the guest of honour at a Christmas party given to limbless ex-servicemen and their wives and children by the St. Martin's Association at the Central Hall, Westminster, yesterday.

There was a gathering of some 3,000 people, into the amusement of whom the Duchess entered with keen enjoyment. Her Royal Highness was received by a guard of honour composed of members of the Association, all men who had lost a limb in the great war.

A variety programme was given, in the course of which music was provided by the band of the Welsh Guards, and a cabaret show was given by children of the Association.

HOUSES AND LANDS.

TUDOR PROPERTY IN SUFFOLK.

Situated 500 ft. above sea level in Suffolk, and with pleasant views, is a genuine Tudor house with fine old carvings, panelling, and oak beams, garages, stabling, and timbered grounds of about 14 acres. More land can be had if desired. There is hunting (two packs) within easy distance. Knight, Frank and Rutley are the agents.

The same firm also offer an attractive detached freehold residence at Hampstead. The house, which has been recently decorated, has a garage for four cars and a tennis court.

Within fourteen miles of London is a freehold old-fashioned residence in a good position 300 ft. above sea level, and almost adjoining a popular golf course. A cottage, garage, stabling, and 1½ acres of well-established gardens and orchard are included. Hampton and Sons are the agents.

Readers who think of making a change of residence will find important help in the announcements, comprising almost every class of property, which appear each week in the last two pages of the SUNDAY TIMES.

THE PRINTERS' ALMSHOUSES.

The Christmas entertainment at the Printers' Almshouses, Wood Green, was held yesterday, when a telegram expressing loyalty was forwarded to the King, the patron of the Printers' Corporation.

Following tea a concert took place, and afterwards there was a distribution of gifts in money and kind. Among the donors were many people prominent in the printing and allied trade. Mr. George Rooke Collingridge presided.

L.N.E.R. MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The L.N.E.R. Musical Society gave its annual carol concert at the Queen's Hall last night. The society's full orchestra of 100 performers and massed male voice choir of 325 voices took part. In addition a number of choir boys from the Alexandra Orphanage and Christ Church, Wanstead, assisted in the carol singing. Miss Megan Thomas was the soloist.

This is the society's twenty-third season and its 158th concert.

CONTRACTS FOR NEW DESTROYERS.

The Admiralty yesterday issued the following statement:—

"With reference to the recent allocation of contracts for the hulls and machinery of the destroyers of the 1930 programme, Defender and Diamond will be built by Vickers-Armstrong, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness; Daring and Decoy will be built by Thornycroft and Co., Ltd., Southampton; Dainty and Delight will be built by the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., Ltd., Govan, Glasgow; and Diana and Duchess will be built by Palmer's Shipbuilding and Iron Co., Ltd., Jarrow-on-Tyne."

COLDER WEATHER LIKELY.

MAINLY FAIR WITH LOCAL SHOWERS.

SOME FOG IN THE EAST

ENGLAND.—Light north-westerly wind; fair; local fog; slightly colder.

SCOTLAND.—Light or moderate westerly wind; mainly fair but perhaps local showers; slightly colder.

WALES.—Light north-westerly wind; fair; slightly colder.

ENGLISH CHANNEL. — Light north-westerly wind; fair; local fog; sea slight.

AIR PASSAGES.—Wind N.W., or variable, 5 to 15 m.p.h. up to 2,000 feet. Mist or fog in most places until about 11 o'clock, persisting locally in W. Germany all day. Visibility 100-300 yards at first, improving by noon to 1,000-3,000 yards, except in W. Germany.

By OUR METEOROLOGICAL EXPERT.

While Christmas is still too far ahead for its weather to be foretold with much confidence in so fickle a climate as ours, the meteorological situation nevertheless justifies an optimistic view of the outlook. Britain now lies near the western end of a long chain of anti-cyclones, stretching from South-West Russia, where the barometer has mounted to the exceptional level of 31.3 in., to northward of the Azores. The vast area of high pressure so formed appears to be well established, and is acting as a barrier to the advance of Atlantic storm centres, which are being diverted from their normal track into the Arctic regions.

The chances of a really wintry Christmas appear rather remote, though there is a possibility that the great zone of high pressure on the Continent may expand westward and bring in very cold air from Eastern Europe before the end of the week. The intense frost at the beginning of last year set in in this way.

GLOOMY SKIES.

Yesterday's weather was practically a repetition of Friday's. Some northern and western districts had a fairly bright day, but elsewhere gloomy skies predominated, with much mist or fog, and intervals of drizzling rain in many regions. Temperature again rose to 50 deg. or higher over a wide area, and reached 55 deg. in parts of Ireland. At Kew the 1 p.m. reading of 46 deg. exceeded the normal by 5 deg.

In London yesterday was the sixth consecutive sunless day. December's total of sunny hours so far is only 12 at Kew, and less than two in the City, where the daily measurements are as follows:—8th, 0.8 hr.; 12th, 0.6 hr.; 14th, 0.4 hr. The remaining seventeen days have yielded none at all. A new record for persistent dullness will not be set up, however, for in the December of 1890 London had no sunshine whatever.

IDEAL OCTOPUS.

AQUARIUM ADDITIONS AT THE ZOO.

By OUR ZOO CORRESPONDENT.

The news that an octopus has arrived at the Aquarium often brings disappointment to Zoo visitors, for although specimens of these sea creatures are acquired regularly, they do not usually survive for any length of time, and during the short period they inhabit a tank in the Aquarium they frequently hide away behind rockwork so that the details of their appearance cannot be studied.

An octopus from Madeira that arrived about a week ago, however, seems perfectly satisfied with his surroundings, and is behaving in an ideal manner. Consequently he makes the aquarium well worth a visit, for he is one of the most interesting and most horrible sights at the Zoo.

From time to time he may be seen moving about the tank. Then he demonstrates how these nightmare creatures appear to be moving backwards since his bloated body is pushed out in front while his tentacles trail. At other times he presses himself against the glass front of the tank and then the suckers on his eight tentacles are on view, while his prominent eyes add to the unpleasantness of his appearance by gazing malignantly at the onlookers.

Only occasionally is it possible to get a glimpse of his beak-like mouth, for it is situated on his underside, but when he is given a meal—he feeds three times a week on small crabs—he at once falls on his victim, and by the movements of his body he shows clearly how he catches food and how conveniently placed is his mouth. He is a small octopus, and can, therefore, be handled by the keepers, yet when he places his tentacles on their arms they have difficulty in dislodging the creature.

This nightmare animal was accompanied at the Zoo by a small cuttle-fish, but, like many cuttle-fish exhibited in the Aquarium, it is now dead, killed by its own hand—or, rather, ink. For it became so enraged by captivity that it ejected immense quantities of ink and so poisoned itself, since the limited space in the tank prevented the ink from dispersing or the cuttle-fish from avoiding it.

The Aquarium is also exhibiting examples of two other interesting members of the fish family—a sting-ray and a number of small sharks. The latter, though small, give an excellent idea of how horrible the large man-devourers must be, while the sting-ray, captured at Brighton, is showing the sting with which so many of these fish injure and poison bathers.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

A new cattle market which will cost £12,000 is to be erected by the Grimsby Corporation.

Bournemouth Corporation are investigating the possibilities of erecting houses by direct labour.

Croydon Corporation are to consider a scheme for the provision of a municipal golf course at Addington.

In Lyons's three Corner Houses an average of seventeen and a-half million customers are served annually.

The Rev. G. W. Harte of Tyndale Baptist Church, Clifton, Bristol, has accepted a call to Elm Road Baptist Church, Beckenham.

The Rev. C. Pendock Banks, vicar of St. Saviour's, Westgate-on-Sea, has been appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury Rector of Ickham, near Canterbury.

A BIT OF A SKI-MOZZLE.
BY THE MARQUESS OF DONEGALL,
IN TO-MORROW'S "DAILY SKETCH."

Pleading guilty to breaking into the Convent of Holy Souls at Beaulieu, Jersey, on November 29, with a view to robbery and to having assaulted one of the nuns, Louis Yves Nicolas (30) was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour at Jersey yesterday.

A verdict of accidental death through fracture of the skull was returned at an inquest at Douglas yesterday on John Windsor Iswthwaite, of Douglas, who died as the result of injuries received while playing football. The boy collided head-on with another player.

William Richard Butler (44), of Middle Street, Southsea, a fitter in the Dockyard, was sentenced to three months in the second division at Portsmouth yesterday for stealing £62 5s. 10d. belonging to members of a loan club of which he was secretary. The police said that the money belonged to very poor people.

Mrs. Violet Hildreth, aged 32, of Torrington Road, Portsmouth, has died at Peterborough from injuries received in a collision between a London-Durham motor-coach and a motor-lorry on the Great North Road at Haddon, on August 13. The coach caught fire, and the motor-lorry driver and a passenger in the coach were burned to death.

IN LONDON WITH A SKETCH BOOK.

MR. HANSLIP FLETCHER'S SURVEY.

VANISHED BUILDINGS.

"From the Nineties to the Thirties" was the title of a lecture delivered by Mr. Hanslip Fletcher at the Bartlett School of Architecture, London University. Mr. Fletcher has made 300 drawings of London, and his pictorial record, which is familiar to SUNDAY TIMES readers, constitutes a review of the changing London scene which will be invaluable to the historians of London.

Mr. Fletcher began by standing in fancy at the west door of St. Paul's and taking a glance at the statue of Queen Anne, who, as a wag had remarked, had "her back to the Cathedral and her face to the tavern." Of the Cathedral he said he hoped that a skyscraper would never o'ertop it and that the dome would continue to ride serene and majestic in the London landscape.

THE OLDEST HOUSE.

Having thus begun, the lecturer roamed at will among the churches, buildings, and streets of London, and illustrated his remarks with lantern slides of his own drawings. The oldest house in the City disappeared from Cheapside in 1928. He only heard of its intended demolition at the last moment, and had only a few days in which to draw it. Cowper selected that house as the starting-point of Gilpin's famous ride:—

"Smack went the whip, round went the wheels.
Were never folk so glad.
The stones did rattle underneath
As if Cheapside were mad."

Next, Mr. Fletcher passed to what was Chancellor's and is now Chancery Lane. Here there were demolitions in 1892 of plain Georgian houses and a stone archway leading to the Rolls House, yard, and chapel. Those demolitions made way for the present Record Office.

"I was just in time to draw Newgate," Mr. Fletcher remarked. "These demolitions in 1902-3 made antiquarians happy because Roman foundations of Newgate, together with an adjoining fragment of London Wall, were revealed. Almost within a stone's throw of Newgate, where the new G.P.O. now stands, was Christ's Hospital. It was built of old London red brick, with dressings of finer work for the pilasters."

QUIET INTERIORS.

Mr. Fletcher's slides included drawings of interiors of the quiet brick buildings behind Christ Church, used as offices and board rooms by the governors of the hospital. He showed also the noble Court Room, and lamented that these rich interiors had disappeared. The Gate had been re-erected at Horsham.

London was always changing, and 1903 was a fateful year, and the death knell of many old buildings in London was sounded. There was a group of old houses, an arch, and some shops obstructing the view of St. Giles's, Cripplegate, from the street. It was pleasant to walk through the arch and discover the screened and protected fourteenth century church, and a further surprise to find in the green oasis of churchyard and in the vicarage garden a splendid bastion 36 ft. wide and 12 ft. high, being the best preserved remnant of the ancient London Wall. Near it once stood the Cripplegate, which gave its name to the district.

"Fortunately," Mr. Fletcher continued, "the precious church and wall remain to us, but they pulled down the houses and little has been gained, the so-called improvement making the church look forlorn and cold, and in place of the interesting houses and archway is a depressing statue of Milton and a low wall with a poor railing."

In Billingsgate, Mr. Fletcher reminded his hearers, the church of St. Botolph was destroyed in the Great Fire and not rebuilt, the parish being united with St. George's, Botolph Lane. No fewer than four London churches were dedicated in honour of the Saxon Saint who gave his name to Boston in Lincolnshire. He was regarded as the patron saint of seafaring folk, and his name seemed to blend with the salt sea flavour of Billingsgate.

STRAND "DEVASTATION."

The Strand improvement, said Mr. Fletcher, had wrought a great change where Bush House now stands. Never was there such a devastation. Holywell and Wych Streets, Clements, Danes, and Lyons Inns, the Globe and old Olympic theatres (as well as the Rising Sun, where the students and lawyers' clerks took their noon refreshment), the bookshops haunts of the booklover and unwilling schoolboys buying lesson books, and, incidentally, finding his way about the Metropolis—all had disappeared.

"The talk in those days," Mr. Fletcher recalled, "was of Kingsway linking Holborn to the Strand, which was to be under the supervision of one architect. There was a competition for this, but, like many competitions, this was not adhered to. Still, there is a certain dignity in the thoroughfare and some fine buildings. Some of us resent America in London at Bush House, which has meant the loss of the old Sardinia Chapel.

"You would hardly believe that the Strand churches were threatened as obstructions. We won the day, and still the gleaming spires of St. Mary and St. Clements cheer us on our way. Thus London preserves some continuity with the past. Only an antediluvian antiquary would wish to keep everything and turn a live city into a museum. Fortunately there arise men who are fighters —zealots and enthusiasts—and posterity will thank them for the fact that some of the best of the old is incorporated in the London of the future."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

Sunday Times

No. 426.] LONDON, SUN., DEC. 19, 1830. [Price 7d.

The late King's coronation robe of rose-colour satin with the star, etc., were sold at Phillips's for £7 5s.

It is said to be the intention of Ministers to allow an issue of one pound Bank Notes in the country, on the amount of all issues being doubly secured by the various friends of the Bankers.

It is not, perhaps, generally known that every voter in Wallingford, Berkshire, receives £40 for his two votes. Surely this place should be disenfranchised as well as Evesham, etc.

The seventy-six Commissioners of Bankrupts are, we hear, to be dismissed with a small pension, and five Judges to be appointed at a salary of £1,500 per annum, three of whom are to sit daily. This would effect a great saving, and add much to the dispatch and regularity of the business; the present system being, in fact, a perfect bear-garden.

The question whether the decree, on the subject of Tithes, issued in pursuance of the Statute of the 37th Henry VIII., had ever been enrolled was before the House of Lords on Wednesday. Their Lordships were of the opinion, that the presumption was, from its having been so long acted upon, that it had been duly enrolled. and the absence of proof of that fact, after the lapse of three centuries, ought not to be regarded as making for the contrary.

LANDOWNER DROWNED.

A well-known Westmorland landowner, Mr. John Waller Harrison, of Blandsworth, near Kirby Stephen, was found drowned yesterday in the river Eden within sight of his home.

He was at a whist drive in a neighbouring village on Friday night, and, returning in pitch darkness, appears to have taken a wrong turning and got into the river.

BACH'S FAMILY LIFE.

THE HOUSE WITHOUT PICTURES.

HYMNS AT 6 A.M.

A SUNDAY IN A WINE-CELLAR.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BERLIN, Saturday.

The author of a new book devoted to Bach's family life, Ernst Borkovsky, aims at proving that the geniality of the great musician's home surroundings gave the tone to much of his work. Borkovsky describes in his book, "Die Musiker Familie Bach," published by Eugen Dietrichs, in Jena, the position and the internal arrangement of the official residence of the Kantor of the Thomas School in Leipzig, which Johann Sebastian occupied from the year 1723 until his death in the year 1750.

On the ground floor, he says, were the bedrooms of the musician's elder sons, and the kitchen, wash-house, and other domestic offices; a short staircase led to the floor on which were the common sitting-room, the dining-room, and the Kantor's "composing-room," while the floor above that contained only bedrooms for a family which grew so rapidly that between the years 1723 and 1742 the cradle served for no less than thirteen little Bachs. There was no attempt at artistic adornment of any of the rooms; there were no pictures and no carpets.

MUSICAL CHILDREN.

The published lives of Bach give a complete inventory of the furniture in the house at the time of his death, but Borkovsky observes that the beds, the tables, the chairs, the house linen, and the table silver were almost the whole fortune of the musician, for he left only about 250 Thaler (barely £40) in money. Bach's collection of musical instruments, however, was of considerable importance; he had five pianos, two lutes, besides violins, bass viols, and violoncellos. His library of fifty volumes contained mainly theological works.

Early hours were kept in the Bachs' house, and at 6 o'clock each morning every member of the family assembled round the piano in the sitting-room to join in singing a morning hymn. Bach wrote to a friend that all his children were musical, and that he was able to give a concert *vocaliter et instrumentaliter*, especially as his wife sang a clean soprano, and his daughter was "coming on" not badly.

A MIS-SPENT SUNDAY.

There was no room for sentiment in this family life, there were no tears and no kisses, but the joyfulness pervading so much of the master's work had its counterpart in the manner in which the daily doings of the household were carried out.

Bach enjoyed a good glass of wine, and according to Borkovsky, it is recorded that he was once publicly reprimanded at Arnstadt for sitting in the wine-cellar on a Sunday instead of being in church listening to the sermon. He was always effusive in his thanks to friends and admirers who sent him presents of a few bottles of wine, a hare or pheasants.

The musician owed much to his third wife, Anna Magdalena, who was largely responsible for the maintenance of the harmony and comfort of the household. She was always the first to hear his new compositions.

THE AMERICA'S CUP.

DESIGNS OF ENTERPRISE AND SHAMROCK V.

For the first time so soon after the event, the designs of the rival yachts that raced for the America's Cup are being published.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Starling Burgess and Mr. Charles Nicholson, the respective designers, the lines of the Enterprise and Shamrock V. are appearing in the "Yachting World." The design of the defender is published in the current issue, while that of Shamrock V. will appear in the following number.

Hitherto it has been the custom to maintain secrecy upon the lines of racing yachts. No design of a successful British yacht was ever divulged until her racing career had been closed for many years. The decision of Mr. Burgess and Mr. Nicholson will, therefore, be welcomed in yachting circles.

AUCTIONS AND ESTATES

AN OLD-WORLD HOME IN SUSSEX.

With its picturesque old Mill House, reputed to date from the days of Henry VII., Cut Mill, Bosham, on the West Sussex coast, is to be sold by Knight, Frank and Rutley. The property still retains its original charm, a feature being the fine old mill wheel. Modern-day requirements in the way of electric light and central heating have been embodied in the house. There are pleasure grounds intersected by a stream which also forms a large lake.

With orchards, paddocks, and two cottages, the property covers some 8¾ acres. Cut Mill also has exceptional facilities for yachting, being only a few miles from the Solent.

The trustees of the late John Sargent have instructed Knight, Frank and Rutley to offer for sale by auction the freehold of No 94, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea.

Early in the New Year Hampton and Sons will offer by auction, unless a private sale is effected meanwhile, Ravensbec, Albemarle Road, Beckenham, a freehold property with all modern conveniences and well-laid-out garden. It is suitable for private occupation or conversion into flats. There is also a valuable plot of building land.

A number of important properties have been sold by Knight, Frank and Rutley. They have sold the Grand Theatre, Lancaster, the Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, and the Hippodrome Picture House, West Hartlepool. They also report the sale of the valuable block of freehold property, Nos. 24-26, and 28, Charing Cross Road, W.C., while they have disposed of the freehold of Nos. 67, 69, and 71, Oxford Street, W.C., subject to a lease for a term having fifty-one years unexpired, and, in conjunction with Harry Sharman, the long leasehold interest in the important shop premises, No. 332, Oxford Street, W.C. St. Quintin, Son and Stanley acted for the vendors. The Westminster lease of No. 99, Eaton Place, Belgravia, has been disposed of by Knight, Frank and Rutley.

A contract has been signed for the sale of the Hayes Place estate, Hayes, Kent. The property comprises the Hayes Place Mansion, a substantial residence known as Pickhurst Mead, a greater part of the village of Hayes, and about 300 acres of building land. The purchaser resides in the locality, and intends to develop the estate as a garden suburb. Burnett Brown was agent for the vendor, and Summersell and Wadsworth acted for the purchaser.

Through the agency of Ernest Owers, No. 119, Broadhurst Gardens, Hampstead, has been sold. They have also disposed of 4, Aberdare Gardens, Hampstead; and other sales include 31, Sumatra Road; 52, Hillfield Road; 3, Blackburn Road; 9, Canfield Gardens; 35, Pandora Road; 20, Sherriff Road; 27, Gondar Gardens; 120, Mill Lane; 91, Dartmouth Road, and a building site for the erection of a private house in Cleve Road, N.W.6.

H. C. Wilson and Co. report the sale of the long leasehold residence, 58, Springfield Road, St. John's Wood, N.W.8.

The Grosvenor Estate lease of 6, Upper Belgrave Street has been sold by George Trollope and Sons, who have also disposed of the freehold premises at the corner of Gayfere Street and Wood Street, Westminster, the last of the old properties remaining in Wood Street, Westminster, involved in the L.C.C. improvements started some thirty years ago.

Court and Society

The King and Queen are due to leave Buckingham Palace to-morrow for Sandringham, where they will spend Christmas and the New Year. The Prince of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York and their two children will join Their Majesties, and so will Prince George, but Princess Mary and the Earl of Harewood will be at their Yorkshire home, Harewood House. The Duke of Gloucester will arrive in England on January 2, and will go down to Sandringham immediately.

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The Prince of Wales and Prince George had something out of the ordinary in the way of entertainment when, after having dined at the Chilean Embassy on Wednesday, the Chilean Ambassador and Mme. de Villegas provided an exhibition of Spanish dancing by Señorita Brunelleschi and five English girls. Their brilliant costumes and lively movements in the various dances were charming, and it was difficult to believe that all six dancers were not every one of them Spanish. Mme. de Villegas wore a dress of black velvet and a handsome diamond necklace, and her guests included the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Henderson, the Duchess of Portland, Marchioness Curzon and Lady Chamberlain, all these three last named choosing to appear in white gowns. Viscountess Churchill was one dressed in palest pink, and she was accompanied by her husband, who was standing near Sir Austen Chamberlain. Also among those I met were Lord and Lady Forres, the latter wearing a bunch of velvet tuberoses in the bodice of her black lace frock; Sir Rennell Rodd, with his wife, yet another wearer of white; Sir Godfrey and Lady Thomas, the latter in red velvet; Alice Lady Lowther, in black trimmed with fur; Viscount and Viscountess Brentford; the Dowager Lady Swaythling with the Hon. Joyce Montagu; Sir John Hanbury Williams; Sir Robert Vansittart; and Miss Diane Chamberlain, in a girlish frock of blue tulle.

❀ ❀

Princess Mary Countess of Harewood lent the ballroom of Chesterfield House for the annual meeting of the League of Mercy, as, owing to the Round Table Conference being in occupation of the main rooms in St. James's Palace, this meeting could not be held in its usual milieu. Her Royal Highness came into the ballroom with the Prince of Wales, and she looked very well in a dress of raspberry red with which she wore no hat. Princess Helena Victoria, in a black coat collared and cuffed with chinchilla fur, and Princess Marie Louise, in dark red under a fur coat, were also to be seen seated on the red-covered dais set up at one end of the room. The Prince of Wales presided, and I noticed he carried his handkerchief in his hand during his little address, which was a portent of the cold which has now laid him up. Lord Cornwallis, Countess Brassey, Lord Marshall, Lord Wakefield, Feo Lady Alington, in red, Lady Worthington-Evans, in a kolinsky-trimmed black velvet suit, and Lord Leigh were among those present.

❀ ❀

Princess Marie Louise, who is very musical, was present at Mrs. Alfred Bossom's dinner at 5, Carlton Gardens, which preceded Arthur Rubinstein's clever playing of several Debussy pieces on the piano, and selections from the works of Ravel, Scriabine, and Stravinsky among others. Her Highness, who was wearing a gown of dark blue georgette, chose to sit in the back part of the drawing-room, which was illuminated by electric light while the other portion was given over solely to candle-light—with delightful effect. Lord and Lady Jessel, the latter in green and gold lamé, also sat at the end of the room, close to whom I saw Sir Ronald Waterhouse, with his wife in emerald green; Mrs. Hugh Adams, in black velvet; Mrs. Wilfred Ashley, in flame pink; Sir Frederick and Lady Lewis, the latter sporting gloves of bright jade green kid the same colour as her feather fan; and Mrs. Robert Fleming, who kept on a delightful short wrap of chinchilla. Others I caught sight of were Lady Bertha Dawkins, in black and silver; Captain Victor Cazalet with Miss Thelma Cazalet, who wore black embossed georgette; Lady Dawson of Penn, in a frock of gold lamé and a coatee to match bordered with brown fox fur; and the Hon. Mrs. Douglas Vickers. Mrs. Bossom, who was dressed in black lace with long black gloves, and a spray of orchids on the shoulder, had her husband to help her entertain their friends, and also their son, Mr. Bruce Bossom. Others in the assembly were Viscount and Viscountess Elibank, the latter in emerald green; Lady Jowitt, in dark brown georgette and a long string of amber beads; and the French, Japanese, and Polish Ambassadors.

Another interesting musical party was that given by Lady Crosfield on Friday at her fine Highgate home, where I found the beautiful walnut-panelled music room full of people listening to a programme consisting, among other items, of a Schumann quintet, played by Daisy Kennedy, Thomas Petri, Waldo Warner, Leda Courouclis, and Lady Crosfield (who was at the piano), and of a delightful phantasy composed by Sir Arthur Crosfield himself. Mr. John Drinkwater was listening to his wife's violin playing, and close to him were Mrs. Cazalet with her daughter, in brown velvet, and Mrs. Gladwyn Jebb, whose black turban was swathed alternately in turquoise blue. The Dowager Lady Swaythling, in all brown; Lady Jowitt, in a small black toque tied with turquoise blue velvet; Mrs. Snowden, in a grey-green tweed suit; the Hon. Mrs. Douglas Vickers; the Marchioness of Cholmondeley, in a black coat with collar and cuffs and three bands of beautiful sable; Lady Dawson, wearing a becoming little nose-veil, with the Hon. Rosemary Dawson; Lady Cory, in a quaint hat of black velvet with a green ostrich feather in it; Mr. and Mrs. de Laszlo; and Lady Vaughan-Morgan were also there.

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It is not often that an ex-Viceroy of India has the opportunity of entertaining some of the reigning Princes from that land in his own house in London, so the reception given by the Marquis of Reading at 32, Curzon Street, on Tuesday, had unusual interest. Standing at the top of the staircase, Lord Reading, wearing the blue and white ribbon of the Order of the Star of India, had a smile and a word for all his guests, and his daughter-in-law, Viscountess Erleigh, dressed in pink and silver lamé, acted as hostess for him. Lady Erleigh's family was well represented, among its members whom I saw being her mother, Lady Melchett, wearing white; her brother, the Hon. Henry Mond, with his wife, in a dress partly white and partly black; and Mr. and Mrs. Emile Mond, the latter in red and gold brocade. The Prince of Wales favoured the party with his presence, and to do honour to the Indian guests also wore the Order of the Star of India. His Royal Highness greeted many during his passage through the reception rooms, among them being the Prime Minister and Miss MacDonald, the latter dressed in emerald green moiré and wearing long black kid gloves. The Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry came together, the latter in black velvet and the family diamonds, and the former had a chat with General J. B. Seely. The Hon. Mrs. Ronald Greville, in black lace and with several rows of solitaire diamonds, was talking to various Indian potentates; and so was Viscountess Astor, whose dress of pale turquoise blue lace was set off by a magnificent tiara of carved turquoises and diamonds, reminiscent of one seen and admired at the recent Jewel Ball. The Earl of Cromer, Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, Lord Gainford with Lady Gainford, in black and flowered lamé; Viscountess Sandhurst, in black velvet; Mrs. Snowden, also in black velvet, with crystal embroideries; Lord and Lady Camrose, Miss Megan Lloyd George, in beige lace, with her brother-in-law and sister; Sir Thomas and Lady Carey-Evans, the latter in black; Viscount Allenby, with his wife in grey georgette; Sir Austen Chamberlain with Lady Chamberlain, in black velvet; Sir Arthur and Lady Crosfield, in conversation for a while with the Aga Khan and his wife; Sir John and Lady Simon, and the Hon. Lady Salmond (who told me that the marriage of her sister, the Hon. Imogen Grenfell, to Viscount Gage will take place in February or March), were other guests of note.

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Many well-known people gave dinner parties for the two big balls of the week. Lady Cunard entertained for the Eclipse Ball when she was hostess to Viscountess Furness, who wore purple lace; Mr. and Mrs. Robin D'Erlanger, the latter in white lace; Lady Louis Mountbatten, scintillating in silver paillettes; the Aga Khan, with his wife in pink lace; and the Hon. Evelyn and Mrs. FitzGerald, the latter having a black frock with pink flowers. The Duke and Duchess of Westminster, the latter in white lace, were also at the ball, which was a great success. Lady Howard de Walden was, unfortunately, unable to go to the Persian Ball, but her place at dinner was taken by Lady Violet Bonham-Carter, who wore white, and had Sir Maurice at her table, as well as the Begum Aga Khan and her husband, while not far off were Sir Henry Norman, Feo Lady Alington with her granddaughter, Miss Eileen Brougham, very girlish in pink and black lace, and Sir Denison and Lady Ross, who had helped Mr. Seymour Leslie so energetically to make the Persian tableaux the artistic success they were.

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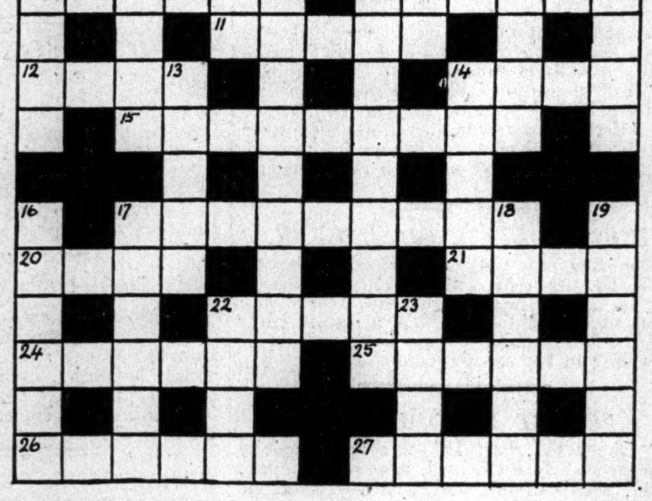
Turquoise-blue-clad bridesmaids distinguished Lady Mary Lindsay's wedding, and turquoises were conspicuous among her presents, both being very attractive and cheering on a gloomy wet day. Her mother, the Countess of Crawford, was unable to go to the church, but was hostess at the reception at her house in Audley Square.

MAYFAIR.

CROSS-WORD PUZZLE No. 312.

Send solutions addressed "Cross-word No. 312," SUNDAY TIMES, 135, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. Two novels selected from publishers' announcements in the SUNDAY TIMES will be given to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened after the first post on Wednesday. Readers in Scotland are precluded from taking part in the competition.



ACROSS.

1. This often passes from hand to hand, but only flies when blue.
4. The highly ornate beginning of one of the U.S.A.
8. Swell.
10. On the feet or from the lips.
11. A bit of the vegetable world that serves for 1 across.
12. Among 13 down doubtless.
14. A man at his age does as he wishes (hidden).
15. Some thing about a little stream is distinctly exciting.
17. Pleasing in the extreme.
20. Fish.
21. English river.
22. With so much adipose tissue to go about in Falstaff might naturally do this.
24. A famous highwayman.
25. A game that is mainly in Ireland.
26. Character that Alice met in Wonderland.
27. "A crony" (anag.)

DOWN.

1. A wager about a parson of sorts is rank of a kind.
2. Give a present to the dear one for an article of clothing
3. An island of New York.
5. "Falstaff—s the lean earth as he walks along."—Henry IV.
6. Bobtail's associate.
7. "Eel, Sid" (anag.)
9. An order of Friars
10. Suitable name for a gem.
13. Quadrupeds.
14. Part of a pig.
16. One of an European race.
17. A disease that attacks wood.
18. Town of Australia.
19. Possession of land by freehold.
22. Most unsuitable name for a payment according to the payer.
23. He gave to misery (all he had) a —." Gray.

CROSS-WORD No. 311. PRIZEWINNERS.

MRS. CROFTON,
33, Church Street,
Oswestry, Shropshire.

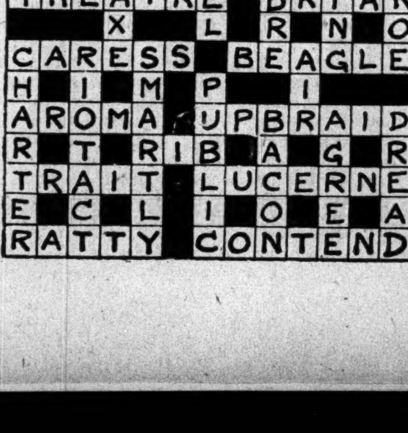
G. R. FRANCIS,
9, Braemar Avenue,
London, N.22.

MRS. C. H. GRAY,
Hurst House,
Abbey Wood, S.E.2.

ROBERT REID,
Birnam, The Park,
Newark-on-Trent.

CAPT. F. W. SHARPE.
6th B. Gloucestershire Regt.,
St. Michael's Hill,
Bristol.

SOLUTION OF PUZZLE No. 311.



MIGRANT■MARCH
E■L■M■A■A■E■A
RHOMBUS■CHAIR
I■B■I■SEAAD■D
THEATRE■BRIAR
■■■X■■L■R■N■O
CARESS■BEAGLE
H■I■M■P■■I■■■
AROMA■UPBRAID
R■T■RIB■A■G■R
TRAIT■LUCERNE
E■C■L■I■O■E■A
RATTY■CONTEND

A Woman's Corner

A Merry Christmas

The Gallant Ones.

By PANDORA.

Despite a black fog, which gave us something to talk about, the familiar sight of the Christmas shoppers with their lists and their preoccupied expressions has been witnessed each day. Latterly a new element has been introduced with the arrival of the boys and girls from school, and beaming parents may be seen going about the shops, assisted—or hindered as the case may be—by high-spirited families. Only a Scrooge could complain of being bumped about by tall boys arm-in-arm with their mothers, or by small groups of school girls supplied with an endless flow of conversation.

This family shopping is one of the prettiest things about the ante-Christmas "drive." Fathers as a rule shelter behind their offices and their other engagements, and seldom appear in the open when Christmas shopping is going on. But, as a distinguished soldier pointed out to me a few days ago, women are far and away the stronger sex, and can do things that would kill a man. Perhaps Christmas shopping is one of them.

Tale of a Balloon.

London kindness and friendliness is one of the pleasant features of life in the greatest city in the world, and everyone can give instances of this human-ness. In Kensington High Street the other day a shopper carrying a large blue balloon let it slip from her hand. After the fashion of balloons it bounced and drifted gaily out of reach into the road, where buses, cars, taxis, and vans thundered along from all directions. A helpful girl made a dash at it and succeeded in sending it further into the road. A taxi swerved dangerously in a half-circle to avoid it as if it had been a dog, and the balloon maliciously took several little hops in front of a dray. A small boy danced up and down clapping his hands in anguish at the sight, and a crowd collected along the edge of the pavement (most of them "without a moment to spare, my dear, these days, for I am rushed nearly to death") to see what would happen next. Then a chivalrous bus-driver came to the rescue. Just as the balloon made towards him, bent on suicide, he put on the brakes suddenly and pulled up short, while the embarrassed owner of the balloon dashed out, picked it up from under the nose of the bus, and fled into the obscurity of a big shop.

The Absent.

At Christmas-time there is hardly one above early youth who does not think of absent friends, both those abroad and those who once shared with us the merriment and kindness of Christmas.

We are thinking of those whose homes are scattered all over the world, who are keeping Christmas under very different circumstances from ours, yet keeping it in the same spirit and with the same tenderness of memory that we keep it, and, as we drink the old toast on Thursday: "To Absent Friends," we are joining our kind thousands of miles away in a beautiful ritual.

We shall be thinking, too, of those for whom our hearts ache, because they have gone away into a silence where we cannot follow them except by love and faithfulness. They still are part of our lives, for Love does not die, but however strong is faith, there are times when the human heart craves for the familiar voice, the little simple things which we shared before they fared on to a sphere beyond that which we know. In many homes each Christmas those left behind, bereft and bewildered, are asking that pathetic question: "Why should they have been taken when they were loved and needed?" and to many there comes no reply except that which experience teaches—that such sorrow makes it possible to comfort and help others stumbling along the same rough and thorny road

Unselfish Courage.

When we think of the absent friends and send them silently our love, do we think enough of those gallant people who keep a serene and smiling countenance though their hearts are heavy, lest they mar the happiness of others? Sad faces and wistful eyes are resented as a reproach to the cheerful, but few of us remember to be grateful to those who hide their own feelings behind an unselfish sympathy with the season's gaiety.

Most of us can think of more than one friend who will be doing so this Christmas. They may have lost their greatest personal happiness, the beloved life companion, the parent, child, sister or friend, yet in the true spirit of Christmas these courageous ones will celebrate the day by radiating peace and good will, perhaps thereby linking themselves the more closely to those living beyond our sight who "join in this holy feast With all the kneeling world."

Concerning Patients.

The subject of patients in hospitals and nursing homes being awakened too early was to have been given honourable retirement, but an earnest letter from an ex-Nursing Sister from the point of view of the nurse makes it necessary for the matter to be mentioned again.

She writes that my remarks re the early morning in hospital are hardly fair. "In the first place all lights are out in every hospital ward at 8 p.m., and most patients go to sleep almost at once. If they sleep until 5 a.m. they have had already, shall we say, nine hours, and most of them are pleased to have their early breakfast. As soon as they are washed and their beds made they can sleep again, and there is the compulsory hour of rest before 3 p.m. daily, so that a patient has plenty of time for sleep. Those who are really ill sleep the greater part of the day."

The courteous letter puts the case very well from the nurse's standpoint, but one may point out gently that there must be some ground for complaint, else the authorities would not be making enquiries of all the hospitals as to the time patients were awakened and the attitude of the latter towards the subject.

The Old, Old Wish.

On Thursday we shall be wishing all our friends that delightful, if sometimes unsuitable wish, "A Merry Christmas." No other phrase seems quite the same. "Happy" and "Peaceful" may be more appropriate, but when the time comes we find ourselves saying "A Merry Christmas," and hoping that it will be so just as we did when we were small folk, who believed in Father Christmas, and imagined we had heard the reindeer which drew the well-filled sleigh of St. Nicholas, as they pranced and pawed on the roof. So to all my most kind and patient readers I send the old, old wish, "A Merry Christmas," and may it bring you the gift you most desire.

HARROW PANELS.

The Governors of Harrow School have approved a scheme for putting carved armorial panels on the oak screen behind the Speech Room stage in honour of distinguished Harrovians of the past.

Among those represented by panels will be five Prime Ministers, Spencer Perceval, Viscount Goderich, Sir Robert Peel, Earl of Aberdeen, and Viscount Palmerston; three Archbishops, Dr. R. C. Trench (Dublin), Cardinal Manning (Westminster), and Lord Davidson of Lambeth (Canterbury); as well as four Governors-General of India; and others including R. B. Sheridan, Lord Byron, Lord Rodney, Lord Horne, Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, the Earl of Bessborough, and Dr. H. M. Butler, for twenty-five years Headmaster of the school.

The school breaks up for the Christmas holidays to-morrow, and will reassemble on Friday, January 23.

CASTLE FOR HIS GIFTS.

MUSSOLINI'S REQUEST: NO MORE PRESENTS.

CHRISTMAS GLUT.

EMBARRASSMENT OF PEOPLE'S IDOL.

ROME, Saturday.

A brief but courteously turned message is published in all the newspapers of the kingdom this week expressing Mussolini's wish that no Christmas presents shall be offered him either by private individuals or public bodies.

It would be difficult to imagine the kind of bombardment against which this simple statement is the means of defence. From every part of the country and from people in every walk of life the strangest assortment of gifts has been showered upon the Duce at this season during the years that he has been in power. From wild animals to pocket-books, and from articles of clothing and food to saddles, sabres, and motor-car mascots, there is almost no present that has ever been devised which has not been offered to him.

At first anything suitable was sent to hospitals and various institutions or divided among his family and friends, but large numbers always remained, and increased with the years, to be put away in cupboards and attics, until a year or two ago a castle had to be bought for the sole purpose of housing this motley collection of gifts.

This was the Castle of the Caminade, just outside Predappio, where, as a blacksmith's son, the future leader of Italy was born. He would have been a prophet indeed who could have foretold that that castle would one day be required to contain the nation's tributes to the naughtiest boy in the village school.—Reuter.

CULLODEN FLAGS.

HISTORIC RELICS FOR SCOTTISH MUSEUM.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

EDINBURGH, Saturday.

Three tattered banners, precious relics of the battle of Culloden, have been handed over by the Stewart Society for permanent preservation in the Scottish Naval and Military Museum at Edinburgh Castle.

They are the banner of Stewart of Appin and the colours of Barrell's Regiment, known at the time as Barrell's Blues, to whom the Stewarts were opposed at Culloden.

The Stewarts of Appin formed part of the right wing of the Jacobite army, which was commanded at Culloden by an ancestor of the Duke of Atholl, Chairman of the Military Museum at the Castle, where the flags are being placed under the condition that they shall never be separated and never removed from the Castle without the consent of the Stewart Society.

It is also requested that in any account of the flags which may appear in the museum prominence be given to the name of David Livingston, who, at the risk of his own life, saved the banner of Stewart of Appin.

TO-DAY'S EVENTS.

THE CHURCHES.

St. Paul's Cathedral.—10.0: Ordination by the Bishop of London; Sermon, Bishop of Guildford; 3.15: The Dean; 7: Rev. J. L. Douglas.

Westminster Abbey.—10.15: Rev. K. E. Kirk; 3: Rev. W. H. Carnegie; 6.30: Rev. the Hon. E. Lyttelton.

Southwark Cathedral.—10: Ordination of Priests and Deacons; Sermon, Lit., and H.C.; 6.30: Rev. F. R. Barry.

Royal Military Chapel, Wellington Barracks.—11 and 6.30: Rev. C. E. Chadwick.

Chapel of the Savoy.—11.15 and 6: Rev. H. B. Chapman.

St. Margaret's, Westminster.—11: The Dean of Windsor; 7: Rev. E. Jervis.

All Hallows, Barking-by-the-Tower.—11: Rev. H. C. Money; 6.30: Rev. G. J. Moore.

Christ Church, Albany Street.—11 and 6.30: Rev. R. S. Swann-Mason.

Christ Church, St. Marylebone.—11: Rev. W. A. Potter; 6.30: Carol Service.

Christ Church, Down Street.—11: Dr. Farran; 6.30: Carol Service.

Holy Trinity, Paddington.—11 and 6.30: Rev. J. M. Vallance.

Holy Trinity, Sloane Street.—11.15: Rev. C. Sampson; 3: Rev. G. M. Prichard; 6.30: Rev. C. Cheshire.

Priory Church of St. Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield.—11: Clarke Whitfield in E; 6.30: Musical Service.

St. Anne's, Soho.—11.30: Rev. W. H. Braine; 6.30: Rev. B. G. Bourchier.

St. Clement Danes, Strand.—11: The Rector; 6.30: Rev. W. Kingston.

St. Ethelburga the Virgin, Bishopsgate, E.C.—11 and 6.30: Rev. Dr. Geikie-Cobb.

St. George's, Hanover Square.—11: Archdeacon of Middlesex; 6.30: Rev. E. C. Opie.

St. James's, Piccadilly.—11: Rev. A. L. Giles; 6.15: Ven. C. E. Lambert.

St. John's, Regent's Park.—11: Rev. T. G. Brierley Kay; 6.30: Carol Service.

St. Martin-in-the-Fields.—11.30: Rev. H. Anson; 11.30: (Crypt) Young People's Service; 3.30: People's Service; 6.15: E. S.; 7.30: "The Christmas Story."

St. Mark's, North Audley Street.—11 and 6.30: Rev. W. G. Pennyman.

St. Mary-at-Hill, Eastcheap.—"Pudding Sunday" at 7 p.m.: The Rector.

St. Mary's, Bourdon Street.—11: Rev. H. Johnson; 6.30: Rev. G. H. Colbeck.

St. Marylebone Parish Church.—11: Dr. Morrison; 7: Special Carol Service.

St. Michael's, Chester Square.—11 and 6.30: Rev. W. H. Elliott.

St. Peter's, Piccadilly Circus (Great Windmill Street).—11.15 and 6.30: Rev. C. May.

St. Thomas's, Regent Street.—11: Father Wheatley; 6.30: Rev. J. E. T. Evett.

Gray's Inn Chapel.—11.15: Canon W. R. Matthews.

Kew Parish Church.—11: Rev. H. J. Griffin; 6.30: Rev. S. H. Biddlecombe.

Westminster Cathedral.—10.30: H.M.; 12: L.M. and Sermon; Rev. G. Nicholson; 3.15: Vesps. and Ben.; 7: Comp. Sermon and Ben.; Rt. Rev. Mgr. Canon M. Howlett.

The Oratory, South Kensington.—10.45: H.M.; 3.30: Vesps. and Ben.; 7: Night Service.

Church of the Jesuit Fathers, Farm Street.—10.50: H.M.; 12: L.M.; Rev. M. C. d'Arcy; 3.30: Rev. F. Woodlock.

Scottish National Church, Crown Court, Covent Garden.—11.15 and 6.30: Rev. Joseph Moffett.

St. Columba's (Church of Scotland), Pont Street, S.W.—11: Rev. I. R. Gillan; 6.30: Dr. A. Fleming.

Brixton Independent Church.—11 and 6.45: Rev. A. Hird.

Regent Square Presbyterian Church, W.C.—11 and 7: Rev. G. T. Bellhouse.

St. John's Wood Presbyterian Church.—11 and 6.30: Dr. Alexander.

Christ Church, Westminster Bridge Road.—11 and 7: Dr. S. M. Berry.

Wesley's Chapel, City Road.—11 and 6.30: Rev. G. H. McNeal.

Westminster Congregational Church, Buckingham Gate, S.W.—11 and 7: Rev. H. L. Simpson.

City Temple, Holborn Viaduct.—11 and 7: Rev. F. W. Norwood; 3.30: Carol Service in aid of "Bart's."

Kensington Chapel, Allen Street.—11 and 6.30: Rev. J. E. James.

Central Hall, Westminster.—11 and 7: Rev. D. T. Young; 3.30: Musical Service.

Kingsway Hall.—11 and 7: Rev. Ira R. Goldhawk; 3.30: Christmas Music; 6.30: Musical Service.

Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1.—3.30: Guildhouse Players in "Holy Night"; 6.30: Rev. M. Spencer.

Spiritualist Community, Grotrian Hall, 115, Wigmore Street, W.—11: Mr. Graham Moffatt; Clairvoyant, Miss Lily Thomas. 6.30: Mr. Hannen Swaffer; Clairvoyant Mrs. Estelle Roberts.

Liberal Jewish Synagogue, St. John's Wood Rd.—11.30: Rabbi Dr. Mattuck: "The New Attitude of Science to Religion."

Marylebone Presbyterian Church.—11 and 7: Rev. J. Golder Burns, B.D.

DEATH BY MISADVENTURE AT 99.

When a verdict of "Death by misadventure" was returned at an inquest at Hull yesterday on the body of Matilda Shaw, aged 99, who died from pneumonia accelerated by a fall, a doctor said that but for the fall she would have lived for many years, as she was an active and healthy woman.

SOLDIERS AND CIRCUSES.

HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS.

LINKS OLD AND NEW

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

The appearance of the kilted boys from the Queen Victoria School for the Sons of Scottish Sailors, Soldiers, and Airmen at Dunblane at Captain Bertram Mills's Circus, which opens at Olympia to-morrow, is much more appropriate than most people guess, for the circus from first to last has been much mixed up with soldiering. Indeed, the old tag, "Panem et circenses," might very well be replaced, so far as we are concerned, with the hybrid motto: "Soldiers et circenses."

The father of the British circus, Philip Astley (1742-1814), soon gave up his apprenticeship to his father's trade as cabinet maker at Newcastle-under-Lyme to become a soldier, for at the age of 17 he 'listed in Eliott's Light Dragoons, which had just been raised in a great outburst of recruiting enthusiasm, and was afterwards known as the 15th Hussars, now merged with the 19th. Astley spent seven years in the Army, fighting in Germany, and rose to be sergeant-major.

He seems to have been fascinated with circus riding by seeing, while on furlough, a performance at Islington, which was really "merrie" at that time, for there were many tea gardens and spaces for equestrian feats.

HORSE KNELT BEFORE THE KING.

After his discharge, he started out as a circus rider, advertising himself as the "English Hussar from Eliott's Dragoons." He never forgot the Army. Thus, he went to a military review at Wimbledon with a trained horse, which greatly amused the King by kneeling, lying down, and sitting up "like a dog, at the word of command."

Astley began giving performances in a field at Glover's Halfpenny Hatch at Lambeth, and was so successful that he ultimately settled down at Westminster Bridge Road, where he built his famous "amphitheatre," and conducted a riding school for the Quality.

He often had military performances in his circus, proudly advertising his "troop of horse and foot"; and he made a great deal of the charger which his old chief, Lord Heathfield, gave him. The animal, which had carried Heathfield through the siege of Gibraltar, was called the "Spanish Horse," and became familiar to every Londoner of the period.

It must, indeed, have been a remarkable creature, for we are solemnly assured by a contemporary writer that it could ungirth its own saddle, wash its feet in a pail of water, fetch and carry a complete tea equipage, take a kettle of boiling water off a flaming fire, and "act in the manner of a waiter." Presented to Astley in 1788, it outlived him, dying at a great age, when its hide was made into a "thunder drum" on the prompt side of the circus.

AGAIN A SOLDIER.

Astley built a theatre in the Rue de Fauxbourg du Temple in Paris in 1786, and three years later it was annexed by the French authorities as a barracks. In 1793 he joined up again in his old regiment as a volunteer, serving in the campaign in Flanders.

Indeed, in 1794 he wrote a little book, "Remarks on the profession and duty of a soldier, with other observations relative to the army at this time in actual service on the Continent," recording this ardent conviction: "The profession of a soldier in my humble opinion carries with it a very extensive and honourable name; it is allowed to be lawful by Holy Writ." About the same time he published a "description and historical account of the places now the theatre of war in the Low Countries," and in 1800 he produced maps of the Continent.

On the declaration of the Peace of Amiens in 1802, Astley, now a man of 60, dressed himself up in his Windsor uniform, and, mounted on his charger, presumably the old Spanish horse, waited at the door of his circus to see the King and the Duke of York passing on their return from Greenwich and Woolwich, where they had welcomed the returning troops. His old friend, De Castro, tells us that the Duke noticed Astley, who saluted in "high military style."

Astley afterwards went to Paris to get rent for his annexed circus, but, as war was again declared, he was taken prisoner like so many of his countrymen, and was sent to Verdun.

OTHER CIRCUS FAMILIES.

Astley's rival, Charles Hughes, who ran the Royal Circus, afterwards the Surrey Theatre, was also indebted to the army, for he was backed by the ground landlord, Colonel Temple West, who died in 1783, after riding a horse Hughes had bought for him.

It is also noticeable that the family of the great Ducrow (1793-1862) ended in a soldier, as you will find by making a pilgrimage to his massive tomb at Kensal Green, for his posthumous son and namesake, Andrew Ducrow, was an ensign in the 40th Foot, and died of wounds whilst gallantly leading his men in the attack on Rangariri, New Zealand, November 20, 1863. Ducrow's daughter Louisa, who figured in her father's circus as a child, "La Petite Louisa Ducrow," married Surgeon-Major Henry Wilson (died 1900), who distinguished himself in the Indian Mutiny. She herself died at Hampstead in 1917.

When circuses were in full swing in this country in the days of the Henglers and the Cookes, they were fond of specialising in military spectacles. Thus a whole generation got to know all about the Zulu War in the ring, which naturally offered more scope for horsemanship than the ordinary stage.

As for equestrianship, most circus riders frankly acknowledge the excellence of our military riding schools which have made riding in the ring far less wonderful to the generation which has seen the Military Tournament than it was to our less favoured ancestors. But there are, of course, a number of other things that soldiers cannot do so well as the professional acrobat, though even then the army schools of gymnastics are far better than they have ever been.

So from one cause or another the soldier and the circus keep pretty near each other. Did not Captain Mills do his bit in the War?

THE KILTED BOYS' SCHOOL.

The Queen Victoria School from which the kilted boys at the Circus come, was opened at Dunblane by King Edward on September 28, 1908. The idea was started seven years earlier by General Sir Archibald Hunter in connection with the South African War, and as a memorial to Queen Victoria, Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll taking a great interest in it.

England had long had such a school, formerly in London and now in Dover, and Ireland had one in Dublin, both of them built and maintained by Government, but the Dunblane school was built and is maintained by voluntary subscriptions.

CRYSTAL PALACE CIRCUS.

At Crystal Palace on Boxing Day the eleventh annual circus will be presented at 2.30 and 7.30. Nineteen new acts, including troupes of jugglers, equestrians, and trapezists, will make their first appearance in this country.

One of the features of the entertainment will be Victor Duncan's famous Collies, who have just arrived in this country after an American tour. Mr. Duncan, who lives in Essex, has trained collies for over forty years, and the acting by these dogs is considered the most beautiful animal performance ever presented. As every dog plays an important part, it is necessary for each one to have an understudy. Performances will be given daily at 2.30 and 7.30 until January 17.

OGPU—"HAPPY RETURNS."

BRITISH COMMUNISTS' "WARM LOVE."

THE NEED FOR TERRORISM.

STALIN'S APOLOGIA.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

MOSCOW, Saturday.

On the Ogpu's thirteenth birthday to-day Mr. Page Arnott, on behalf of the Central Committee of the British Communist party and of "the entire British Proletariat," cables:—

"The revolutionary labours of the Ogpu—created by Felix Dzherzhinsky, whose name wakes warm love in the hearts of all workers—is now crowned by its unmasking of the Industrial Party, the most brilliant page in the World Revolution's book, whose memory shall live for ever. All enemies dash themselves to pieces against our Ogpu's steel wall. On behalf of Great Britain's workers and the British Communist Party, I send to you, the Ogpu, a flaming greeting."

STALIN EXPLAINS.

While the whole Press wishes the Ogpu many happy returns, the official "Izvestia" exclaims: "However much Poincaré, Briand, and British circles may protest that they had nothing to do with Ramzin's criminal plot, the sentenced saboteurs in the court house itself exposed them fully."

The "Economicheskaia Zhizn," asking the rhetorical question, "Why is the Ogpu good?" answers: "Because not thousands but millions help it. What can all the Intelligence Services of the outside world do against this weight of numbers? Why, spies have to be paid a triple wage to come to Russia!"

Nevertheless, the most significant fact of all is that the old interview Stalin gave to foreign Communists here at the Revolution's tenth anniversary celebrations in 1927 should now be published for the first time. It defends the survival of "this Committee of Public Safety on the French Jacobin model," solely by the survival of Capitalist States abroad.

THE GIANT AND THE DEVILS.

"Izvestia" says:—

"The Ogpu's greatest victory—over Ramzin—is a victory for you foreign workmen. It seems that the Cheka [the old name of the Ogpu] taught the bourgeois nothing."

To-day "Izvestia" publishes the cartoon of a magnificently disdainful giant Ogpu officer in a long houppelande, cutting down with the sweep of a mighty sabre four little foreign dwarfs, devils who have lost almost all trace of human form, and seem to confirm Sigmund Freud's theory that the image-forms taken by the demonologies of all religions are ultimately a fixed constant.

In addition, we have the usual routine factory resolutions: Rechristening their Hammerers' Brigades with the name of Ogpu; mulcting themselves of part of their wages for war-planes in honour of the Ogpu, etc. These resolutions culminate in the decision of the engineer fraternity to purchase an Air Squadron "in commemoration of their humiliation in the Ramzin Trial."

WHY RYKOV FELL.

Rykov's fall has surprised only those who ignore the natural laws at work in the Russian revolution. There is no place left for such moderate statesmanship as his in Bolshevism's present phase. His fall was as certain as that of the French Girondins.

When Stalin destroyed Trotsky he stole some of that extremist's Red thunder. Now Stalin may have to cut down certain programmes, but only because these programmes are already cutting down themselves under economic pressure. He could not, even if he would, steal Rykov's political moderation, which is denounced as "opportunism" by the official Press.

For more than two years Stalin's party managers have been quietly removing all the props from under Rykov. His removal was finally fixed for the first days of November, but owing to the general situation it was postponed until the Bolshevik Party's Central Committee should meet and shoulder the responsibility for the elimination of this great political moral figure.

PRISON FOR POSTMAN.

MAN WHO WAS "CHASED BY MONEYLENDERS."

"I got into debt and went to moneylenders before I came to the Post Office, and they have been chasing me ever since. That has been the cause of my trouble," said James Guthie Mills (42), a postman at the Western District Post Office, living at Dolben Street, Blackfriars, who was charged at Marylebone yesterday with stealing four postal packets containing postal orders for £2 16s. 6d. while in the course of transmission by post.

Mills told the magistrate that he had recourse to moneylenders three years ago after the death of his mother, when he had to pay 12s. a week rent out of an income from the Labour Exchange of 15s. a week. He borrowed £5 or £6, and paid interest at the rate of 1s. 8d. in the £ per week.

Mr. Hay Halkett remarked that this was an enormous rate of interest. The moneylender seemed to be a thorough scoundrel, and he wished he could be punished.

Mr. Boswell, the court missionary, said Mills had served five and a-half years in the Army and was discharged with an exemplary character. He was described as sober, honest, smart, intelligent, reliable, and trustworthy. "I don't think you could get a better character," said the missionary.

Mr. Hay Halkett: An awful pity the whole thing. If I could see my way to save him from prison I would, but I am sorry to say I cannot.

Mills was sentenced to three months without hard labour.

BUTLER ACQUITTED.

James Robinson (57), a butler, was accused at the Old Bailey (in circumstances reported in the police-court), of having assaulted Sir Gerald Maxwell Willshire at South Kensington.

The jury, without leaving the box, found Robinson not guilty, and expressed the opinion that he ought never to have been charged.

The Recorder: Do you wish me to say that he leaves the court without any stain on his character?

The Foreman: Emphatically, my lord.

The Recorder (to Robinson): I entirely agree with what the jury have said.

FATALLY INJURED BY EARL'S CAR.

Mr. B. Moran, of Kathleen Avenue, Wembley, who was knocked down on Sunday evening last by a motor-car owned by the Earl of Clarendon in Ealing Road, Wembley, died in Wembley Hospital yesterday.

Mr. Moran, with his wife, was proceeding to church when they were knocked down. Mrs. Moran is recovering from her injuries.

SIR O. NIEMEYER RETURNS.

Sir Otto Niemeyer, the financier, arrived at Southampton yesterday on his return from Australia. He declined to make any statement regarding the financial conditions in Australia, remarking, "All I can say I said in Australia."

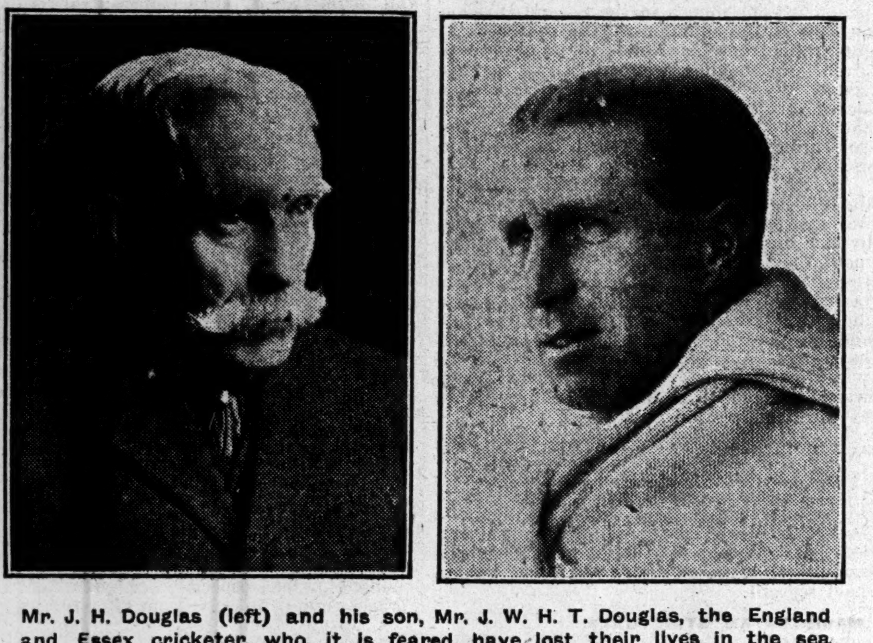
FAMILY OF CRICKETERS AND BOXERS.

REMARKABLE RECORD OF THE DOUGLASES

CAPTAIN WHO BROUGHT HOME THE "ASHES."

Mr. John W. H. T. Douglas, who, with his father, Mr. J. H. Douglas, is among the missing from the Finnish steamer Oberon, sunk in collision with the Arcturus (see page 11) had been an outstanding personality in two branches of sport which are not very frequently associated—cricket and boxing.

It was as a cricketer that he was best known to present-day sportsmen, but there was no better amateur middle-weight boxer in Great Britain a generation ago. Born on September 3, 1882, at 17 years of age he won the public schools boxing championship while a boy at Felsted. In 1905 he secured the British amateur middle-weight championship, and in 1908 he won the Olympic middle-weight championship. His father, Mr. J. H. Douglas, had been a member of the National Sporting Club for over thirty years, and was a famous boxing referee. Incidentally he was a past amateur heavy-weight champion. Mr. Douglas's younger brother, "Pickles," is also known as a boxing referee.



Mr. J. H. Douglas (left) and his son, Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas, the England and Essex cricketer, who, it is feared, have lost their lives in the sea disaster reported on page 11.

CAPTAIN OF ESSEX.

For many years captain of the Essex County cricket eleven, Mr. Douglas was a fine amateur bowler, and one of the most stubborn batsmen England has had for many years. He also had the honour of leading the M.C.C. in Test matches against Australia. He took a team to Australia, and in 1906-7 he was a member of the M.C.C. team which visited New Zealand.

His patience while at the wicket at Sydney led to his initials J. W. H. T. being humorously interpreted by the Australian crowd as "Johnny won't hit to-day."

He entered first-class cricket as long ago as 1901, making a disastrous start when in his first match for Essex against Yorkshire he was bowled for nought in each innings by George Hirst.

It was in 1908 that Mr. Douglas really established his position as a cricketer. Three years later he proved himself more than a useful county cricketer by his performance in the Gentlemen and Players match at Lord's. He scored 72 and 22 not out and took seven wickets.

BROUGHT HOME THE ASHES.

He went to Australia in 1911-12 under Mr. P. F. Warner, captaining the side after Mr. Warner fell ill following the first match. He led the team to victory in the next four Test matches, the first of the series having been lost.

In 1913-14 he captained the M.C.C. team in South Africa, again with marked success, while in 1920 he was captain of the team which toured Australia, but unfortunately lost all its Test matches. In 1924 he went out under Mr. Arthur Gilligan. He played against Australia at the Oval in 1912, the year of the triangular tournament, and in all the matches in 1921. In Australia he appeared eleven times in Test matches, and altogether he made seventeen "Test" appearances for England against Australia. In these matches he took 35 wickets at a cost of 35 runs apiece.

Mr. J. D. Cassels, K.C., president of the Essex County Cricket Club from 1928-1929, said yesterday:—

"I held Mr Douglas in very high esteem as all sportsmen do. He was a great cricketer for Essex and for England. His death is a tremendous loss to cricket."

"MOST LOYAL CRICKETER."

Mr. H. D. G. Leveson-Gower, the well-known cricketer, and for many years a close personal friend of Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas, said: "Douglas was the most loyal cricketer and loyal friend that ever lived. I have known him as well as anybody outside his own county. He has played for me at Scarborough every year since 1906, and has been one of my greatest friends. We have lost a very great cricketer in every sense of the word."

Mr. F. W. Gilligan, the former Essex county player, said: "Johnny Douglas was a man for whom I had the greatest admiration and love. I always said that anyone who had the good fortune to be brought into contact with him could not help realising that he was brought into contact with a man of outstanding personality.

"His dogged determination and unflinching optimism simply compelled admiration. The great point about him was that he expected nothing but the best from his team, but on the other hand he never asked anyone to do anything he would not try to do himself."

Lord Lonsdale, chairman of the British Boxing Board of Control and a well-known sportsman, said: "No one regrets more than I do the sad news, as the Douglases had been so widely connected with sport. Mr. Douglas, sen., had been as valuable to boxing as his son had been to cricket."

MR. JOHN DOUGLAS AS REFEREE.

Mr. Harry Preston, the well-known sportsman, who was a personal friend of Mr. John Douglas, said yesterday: "In the early days he was one of our finest referees. He took control of many great fights, and was in the 'chair' at the National Sporting Club nearly every Monday during the season. He was very much respected and greatly admired by sportsmen throughout the country. He was a most charming and likeable man.

"I remember very well the night he refereed the great match, when Jimmy Wilde, who was then at his best, beat Joe Lynch, the American. The Prince of Wales was present and saw one of the keenest contests for many years. Johnny's decision gave satisfaction to everybody.

"The first time he gave up his active association with the 'ring' was when he went out to Australia with 'J.W.H.T.' and they brought back the 'Ashes' in 1911-12. Since then the old gentleman had a sort of wanderlust, and travelled all over the world with his wife. I know he had got a tour arranged for the New Year.

"His son 'Pickles' is also a well-known boxing referee, and was in the 'chair' at Olympia only on Monday night last when Cuthbert and Foreman fought for the light-weight championship. Both Mr. J. H. Douglas and his two sons, J. W. H. T. and C. H., had been connected with the National Sporting Club for many years. In the old days when the club was passing through difficult times, the father and the late A. F. Bettinson did more than any other men to keep it alive.

GREAT JUDGES OF BOXING.

"Mr. Douglas, sen., and his sons refereed many championship fights at the club, and they were regarded as uncommonly good judges of the sport. Up to a few years ago Mr. Douglas, sen., was president of the Amateur Boxing Association."

"I would rather trust the Douglases' judgment on the worth of a boxer and on the result of a close fight than I would that of any other judge," a member of the N.S.C. said yesterday.

"They had an uncanny faculty which was possessed by only one other man I know, Mr. A. F. Bettinson, of picking out the points that really mattered. They lived for boxing and did an immense amount of hard work to further its interests. Both were old amateur champions, and there was nothing that was too much for them to do to help a promising youngster along."

The last fight that Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas refereed for the National Sporting Club was in May last at Olympia, between Willie Smith, of South Africa, and Dick Corbett.

In business Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas was head of the London firm of Messrs. John H. Douglas and Co., timber merchants. His father, who was formerly head, had retired. His brother, Mr. C. H. Douglas, is a partner in the firm.

SOME CRICKET RECORDS.

In cricket Mr. J. W. H. T. Douglas was greatest as a bowler, but "Wisden's" records show that, some years ago, at any rate, he was not to be despised at a batsman. In 1914, 1919, 1920, 1921, and 1923 he achieved the feat of scoring a thousand runs and capturing one hundred wickets. Outstanding performances with the bat were his 210 for Essex, when he was leading that County, against Derbyshire in 1921, and 75 for England against Australia at Leeds in the same year. This latter effort was Douglas in his most courageous mood—and he was always a great fighter. Gregory, McDonald, Armstrong, and Mailey—he withstood this famous quartette for four hours, and with Lionel Tennyson's assistance saved the follow-on. And his reward was to be deposed from the captaincy of England!

As a bowler he was always to be feared, and was a tower of strength to the Gentlemen of England in many a match. Two splendid achievements were his nine wickets for 105 runs against the Players in 1914, and eight of their wickets for 49 in 1919. On another occasion he took five Yorkshire wickets in eight balls for no runs.

STRONG PERSONALITY.

A man of very strong personality, with definite ideas on the playing of the game, he expected and, for the most part, exacted the best from those under him. Never afraid of the hardest or longest day's work, he looked to his team to respond to his ideas. He kept himself wonderfully fit, and saw no reason why those who were playing with him should not do the same.

Outwardly Mr. Douglas created the impression of being brusque, and for this reason he was probably misjudged by many people, but those who played under his leadership, both amateurs and professionals—and they were the best judges—always spoke highly of him.

Mr. Douglas was the only Englishman who had challenged Australia both in the cricket field and the boxing ring. His boxing match against "Snowy" Baker, whom he defeated at the Olympic games in London, will be long remembered by the sportsmen of the Commonwealth.

MISS SPOONER HOME AGAIN.

"PREPOSTEROUS STORIES" DENIED.

Miss Winifred Spooner, the young English airwoman who crashed into the sea at Belmonte, Italy, on her flight to the Cape, returned to London from Paris unexpectedly last night. It had been thought that she would fly back to her native place of Wokingham, but for two days Miss Spooner was held up by fog, so she came overland.

Hundreds of London girls were at Victoria, and climbed on porters' trucks and barriers to wave handkerchiefs and give her a cheer

There was no official welcome. Miss Spooner was met by Mr. C. B. Gray and Mr. L. H. Freeman, both of whom are well known in the aviation world. When she saw the crowd on the platform her smile faded for the moment and she linked arms with her girl friend, Miss Warrington Smyth, who has often flown with Miss Spooner.

Miss Spooner said that she would like to try the London to the Cape flight again, and she spoke severely about "some preposterous stories" which have gained currency about her falling 200 feet into the sea, and then having a life-and-death swim for hours.

"I never heard anything so ridiculous," she said. "How could I fly in an aeroplane at 100 miles an hour, be flung out 200 feet into the sea, and then get up and swim. I should not feel much like swimming, and neither would anyone else. Everyone who knows anything about aeroplanes is roaring with laughter at some of the tales about me. And how would I fall out of my aeroplane? Simply to get out of the thing is difficult enough, goodness knows. It is true that I did have to swim for two hours in the sea."

CAMP WORK FOR MILL GIRLS.

RESULT OF WOMEN'S INVESTIGATION.

REPORT TO MINISTER OF LABOUR.

TOUR THAT WAS WORTH WHILE.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

MANCHESTER, Saturday

The committee of five women invited by Miss Margaret Bondfield, the Minister of Labour, to investigate conditions in military camps and canteens with a view to reporting upon the suitability of canteen work for unemployed Lancashire mill girls, are preparing a joint report, which will be presented to the Minister of Labour before Christmas.

Miss Emily Hoctor, of Stalybridge, president of the Ashton and District Weavers' Association, who was one of the members of the committee, arrived home late last night, and in an interview to-day stated that the committee had visited the camps at Catterick, Salisbury, Aldershot, Chelsea, St. John's Wood, Wellington, and Halton (Bucks).

"At Catterick," said Miss Hoctor, "about 200 girls are employed in the canteens, and there are from six to eight girls in each canteen. We were given the fullest facilities for making any inquiries we desired from the girls. The members of the committee made their own individual inquiries, and we were not interfered with in any way whilst speaking to the girls. We even went to the extent of inspecting their bedrooms and bedding and asking personal questions.

NIGHT IN GIRLS' HOSTEL.

"At Aldershot, in order to become more fully acquainted with the conditions under which the girls live, three members of the committee, including myself, stayed the night at the girls' hostel, which is an up-to-date institution. It was all very interesting, and I should say that the visit has been worth while."

Miss Hoctor added that she could not at present express an opinion on her visit, but after the joint report had been presented to Miss Bondfield, and had been dealt with, it was her intention to give the fullest possible information to the public on the result of her investigations. She said she considered it was essential that the Lancashire mill girls should know the full facts in order to guide them in taking situations in military camps.

YESTERDAY'S MUSIC.

CAROLS AT THE ALBERT HALL.

Few musical fixtures prove such a consistently popular "draw" as the annual concert of carols given by the Royal Choral Society. The Albert Hall was practically full for this year's occasion; and there was an infinitely larger wireless audience outside.

This is very natural and healthy. The listener who is present is certain of hearing, and, what is more, joining in, old and well-loved things of which everyone knows words and music by heart. Then again there is the thrill of mere numbers. Whereas the case-hardened critic may perceive fat breves taking the place of nimble crotchets in 'Adeste fideles," for instance, it may be difficult for him to recapture the exhilaration he must have experienced when first he heard the largest choir in London in such circumstances. But for most people it is vividly present.

That choir is to be complimented upon its present virtuosity. After the Christmas motet for double chorus, "Now once again our hearts we raise," and Parry's chiming "Welcome Yule" had been sung with the utmost flexibility and immediate response to the stresses of the conductor, Dr. Malcolm Sargent, it was clear that the singers are capable of most things. Orlando Gibbons's anthem, "Hosanna to the Son of David," and especially Mendelssohn's "Hear My Prayer." included by special request, were to confirm that opinion.

Only those with the most fastidious ideals might conceivably sigh for more effects of delicacy rather than the grandiose appeal of the tremendous *crescendo*, the melting *diminuendo*; and ask themselves how "Ring out, wild bells" (with bell effects, cymbals and drums to back the already powerful organ) come to be placed in the same programme as, say, The Coventry Carol. Incredibly, too, the garish set-piece was repeated!

THE NOTORIOUS ECHO.

The vocal soloists of the occasion were not favourably heard, for the notorious echo, practically inaudible when the large choir was singing, syncopated, with diabolical accuracy, every note of their accompaniments that Mr. Berkeley Mason struck on the piano. Miss Noël Eadie's voice is in any case slender for the Albert Hall, and her command of coloratura is undoubtedly greater than could be appreciated in the "Alleluia" of Mozart.

Mr. Walter Glynne sang two new songs. Unfortunately he completely missed the point of Martin Shaw's "The World's Delight," in which the first three lines and the following three in each stanza are arranged on the plan of question and answer, followed by the refrain, "Alleluia": he sang them with exactly the same kind of expression right through. Miss Evelyn Sharpe's "There was a little Baby King" proved to be a good specimen of the (sacred) ballad.

In the absence of an orchestra, Mr. R. Arnold Grier used the organ with effect, where accompaniment was required. But the most artistic results were undoubtedly achieved in the unaccompanied choral singing. H. F.

SCHOOLBOY ESSAYISTS.

The results of the 1930 Public School essay competition organised by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds are:—Senior Division: Silver Medal: N. T. Walford (Marlborough); and Second Prize: G. B. Blaker (Eton). Junior Division: Bronze Medal: H. R. E. Wallis (King's School, Canterbury); and Second Prize: J. S. W. Walter (Wellington College).

The judges in the Senior Division were the Marquess of Crewe and Mr. John Buchan, M.P.; and in the Junior Division Earl Buxton and Major Laurens Sargent.

The subject for the Senior Division was a short account of the bird or birds most requiring protection in the writer's locality (home or school), with notes on their habits and the reason or reasons why they need protection. The subject for the Junior Division was personal observations on birds seen during a holiday.

DYING BOY'S THOUGHT.

A verdict of "accidental death" was returned at a Liverpool inquest yesterday on Frederick Hull Williams, aged 16, baker's errand boy, of Willaston Road, Walton, who was knocked down in the fog by a motor van while walking along a country road with an empty basket over his head. The jury exonerated the driver from blame.

A police officer stated that on the way to hospital in an ambulance, Williams said, "It was not your fault," apparently meaning the driver.

POWER STATION CRITICS.

RISKS OF SULPHUR FUMES

THE COST OF CHEAP ELECTRICITY.

When the Electricity Commissioners met under the chairmanship of Sir John Brooke at the Institution of Electrical Engineers yesterday, evidence was given by Mr. J. Robertson, a consulting engineer, who has been engaged for thirty years in the construction of generating stations.

The Commissioners are conducting an inquiry into the application of Fulham Borough Council to enlarge their power station. It is proposed to extend the present capacity of 18,000 kilowatts to an ultimate capacity of about 300,000 kilowatts. The present application is for the first section of the scheme, an extension to 100,000 kilowatts. The total cost of the new station is estimated at £5,250,000.

"Do you think there are any insuperable difficulties in the way of placing a station down river?" asked Mr. W. Trevor Watson, K.C., one of the counsel for the London County, Westminster, Kensington, and Chelsea Councils, who are opposing the scheme.

"Not at all," replied Mr. Robertson. "For twenty-five years, to my personal knowledge, that has been the policy which has seemed to find favour with engineers."

"TOO NEAR DWELLINGS."

Mr. Robertson added that the site proposed for the station was undesirable. The area available was not nearly sufficient, while near at hand were streets and streets of semi-detached better-class workmen's dwellings.

"To have a station of that kind so near that property is not right," Mr. Robertson declared. "The problem of the elimination of sulphur fumes has not yet been finally solved. Until it has been solved it would be unwise to spend a large sum of money on a big power station. The risks involved are too great."

Dr. W. A. Daley, principal medical officer in the General Health Department of the L.C.C., said that the smoke and fumes experienced in industrial centres prevented the rays of the sun reaching people. That tended to produce rickets in children. "Also," he added, "bad air produces lung diseases, as can be shown by the fact that when there is fog the death rate in pneumonia and bronchitis increases, especially when the fog is accompanied by low temperature.

"It may be said," Dr. Daley went on, "that if you can produce cheap electricity, the presence of a large power station may be justified, but there are one or two points which should, I think, be brought out.

LIVING IN ONE ROOM.

"In the vicinity of this proposed power station there live a number of poor people. Many of them live in one room, and I think it must be quite clear that they will continue to use coal fires and will not take advantage of electricity, unless it is particularly cheap. It is poor compensation for them to know that because of their hardships, smoke and stuff coming out of the chimneys at Fulham, people some distance away can get cheap electricity."

Mr. Tyldesley Jones (for Fulham Council) said suggestions of a down-river station at Dagenham or Erith could not be entertained as possible propositions.

The inquiry was concluded.

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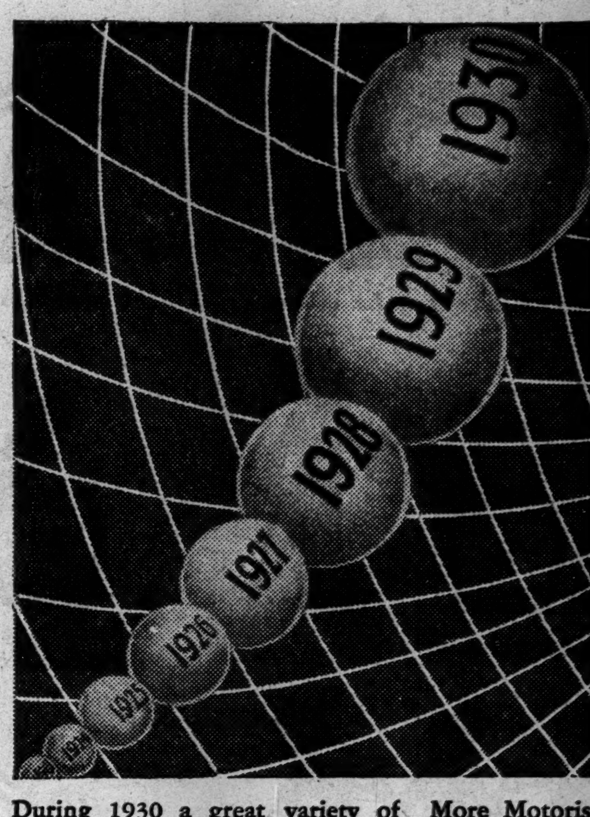

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PEACE IN COALFIELDS.

LANCASHIRE ACCEPTS THE SPREAD-OVER.

BRIGHTER OUTLOOK

HOPES OF MARKETING SCHEMES.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BOLTON, Saturday.

By accepting the spread-over as a temporary measure, Lancashire and Cheshire miners, at their conference in Bolton to-day, paved the way for a national truce in the coalfields.

After the conference, Mr. J. McGurk, the president of the Lancashire and Cheshire Miners' Federation, told me he had given a report of the proceedings at the National Industrial Board on Thursday last, and also read the award by the Board.

"I strongly urged the acceptance of the award at to-day's conference, and the executive committee passed a resolution that the recommendations contained in the award of the National Industrial Board for a new wages agreement be accepted, and that our wages representatives be instructed to meet the coal owners with a view to the award being applied on and from January 1, 1931.

"This means in effect that the recommendation of the Prime Minister for the spread-over to be applied has been accepted for a temporary period of three months. The recommendation was accepted by the conference, but a card vote was insisted on by the opponents of the spread-over. Eight hundred and twenty votes were cast for acceptance of the National Industrial Board's recommendations, and there were 168 votes against.

"This decision means that the principle of the spread-over is accepted by a majority of the British coalfields, as Lancashire held the key position. All threats of a coal stoppage are out of the question now in any part of the British coalfields. The Wages Board recommendation is really a compromise between the eight hours and a seven and a-half hours. The owners' proposals, which were turned down, were for 7 hours 48 minutes a day, while the Board have recommended 7 hours 45 minutes."

Mr. McGurk added that the future for the coal industry is brighter, for if the marketing schemes under the Act were applied as they ought to be, they would bring more revenue into the industry, which must, of necessity, benefit the mine workers. He stressed as an important part of the National Industrial Board's award the recommendation that there should be statutory authority for an agreement between districts providing for the co-ordination of prices between one district and another.

He said that he thought the men would gladly accept the recommendations. "There is peace in the industry, and I can now sit down on Christmas Day and feel much happier than I felt a month ago."

QUOTA TOO LOW.

PROTEST BY BARNSLEY MINERS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BARNSLEY, Saturday.

The miners employed at Haigh and Wooley Colliery, where 2,000 are threatened with dismissal as a consequence of the working of the Coal Mines Act, held an indignation meeting to-day and passed a resolution protesting against the—

"Injustice done to us in allocation of so low a quota to our group of pits, which must cause the dismissal of over 2,000 men. It is not right that the law should say we must not work. This is not Russia, and we are not slaves. We shall not stand for it, and we shall not allow our right to be filched from us in this manner."

These collieries have apparently been assessed on their 1927 output, and the quota based on that means a reduction of at least 30 per cent. of the present output, in view of the developments which have taken place at the collieries since the year mentioned.

MERCHANTS CHARGED.

IN BUSINESS IN LONDON FOR 40 YEARS.

Two men, who were said to have carried on business in the City for forty years, and a woman partner were accused at the London Guildhall yesterday of fraudulent conversion.

They were John William Ricordon, 57, of Anerley Park Road, Anerley, merchant; William Stuart Ransay, 60, of Gressen Hall Road, Wandsworth, merchant; and Mrs. Hilda Mary Ricordon, 60, of Holdshott House, Heckfield, Basingstoke, and they were charged on warrants with having, between January and December of this year, fraudulently converted to their own use and benefit sums of money amounting to £7,752 11s. 8d., received by them on behalf of the firm of Edoardo Stucchi, of Como, Italy.

Mr. Kilner, on behalf of the prosecution, asked for a three weeks' adjournment.

Mr. H. Myers, who appeared for the two men defendants, opposed this application. He said that when the facts became known, it would be seen that this was entirely a civil matter, and that the accused persons, who had carried on business in the City for over forty years, ought never to have been dragged before the court at all. The prosecution ought to proceed at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Bell, who appeared for Mrs. Ricordon, associated himself with Mr. Myers' remarks, and added that his client was a sleeping partner.

Mr. Alderman Collett said he could not consent to any delay, and the prosecution must be prepared to proceed with their case at the earliest possible moment.

Detective-Inspector Frank Giles having given formal evidence of arrest, all three of the accused emphatically denied the charge.

The alderman said this was not a case in which he should ask for sureties. The case would be adjourned for a week, and defendants would be released on their own recognisances.

SENTENCE REVOKED.

MAN SENT TO ASYLUM INSTEAD OF PRISON.

A sentence of six weeks' hard labour passed on a man giving the name of Thomas Gouldsberry (36) and an address at Porteus Road, Paddington, for alleged theft of a 2s. 3d. box of chocolates at Paddington (G.W.R.) Station, was revoked by Mr. Hay Halkett at Marylebone yesterday. The man was discharged as insane. He was handed over to an official of the Tooting Mental Institution.

Detective Smith said that Gouldsberry gave two false addresses and succeeded in concealing his identity until he signed for the property found in his possession in the name of Thomas Hatfield. This led to the discovery that he had absconded from the Tooting Mental Hospital on December 10.

The man had denied on oath that he stole the chocolates, and in passing sentence the magistrate (Mr. Hay Halkett) remarked: "You are a perfect fool. If you had made an honest defence I would have saved your peace, but you have told a pack of lies in the witness-box, and you will go to prison with hard labour for six weeks."

CLUB AS "DEN OF INIQUITY."

PRISON FOR WOMAN SECRETARY.

MANAGERESS ESCAPES THROUGH WINDOW.

At Marlborough Street yesterday the "Chez Oncle" Club, Dean Street, W., was ordered by Mr. Mead to be struck off the register for five years.

James Patrick Walsh, Upper Porchester Street, W.; his wife, Eileen Walsh, and Dora Segar, York House, Theobalds Road, W.C., were charged on three summonses with selling intoxicating liquor without holding a licence. All three were also charged on nine summonses with supplying intoxicants during prohibited hours. Summonses against James Walsh and Eileen Walsh for keeping the club for the purpose of gaming were withdrawn. Mr. Mead adjourned the case against James Walsh for three months for medical reasons.

NOTICE OF APPEAL.

Miss Segar, the Secretary, was sent to prison for one month in the Second Division on each of the summonses, the sentences to run concurrently. Notice of appeal was given. Although a warrant is out for her arrest, Mrs. Walsh did not appear. It was stated that the police had not seen her since the night of the raid on the club, when she got through the window on to the roof and escaped.

Mr. E. B. Knight outlined the nature of the allegations, and said that Mrs. Walsh was assisted in the management of the club by her husband. As a result of a disagreement they had separated. When Sub-Divisional Inspector Smith and other officers raided the club Mrs. Walsh gave the alarm and got through a window on to the roof and disappeared. The police had not seen her since. Against Mrs. Walsh, he said, he withdrew nothing. Mr. and Mrs. Walsh were summoned for illegally selling liquor at the Kildare Club and fined.

Mr. O'Connor, for the defence, stated that Walsh was in a very grave condition of health and would have to undergo an operation. He said he was prepared to plead guilty to selling intoxicating liquor without a licence on three dates in September and October. Walsh, Mr. O'Connor added, had no control of the club, and Miss Segar was a paid servant.

MAGISTRATE'S STRICTURES.

Mr. Mead said fines were inoperative to stop these offences. No one could complain, because these were deliberate offences. They had to be discovered under circumstances which were exceedingly regrettable; but it was a necessary evil under the circumstances.

Continuing, Mr. Mead said:—"This is a most aggravated case. This is one of the worst dens of iniquity. You get continual drunkenness there, and the male defendant has been convicted before and fined. The only reason I am not sending him to prison now is the state of his health. If in three months the state of his health permits I shall inflict imprisonment."

MR. LL. GEORGE AS "KNOCKABOUT."

MINISTER'S ATTACK.

Addressing a Hendon Labour Party meeting yesterday afternoon, Mr. Herbert Morrison, the Minister of Transport, referred to the unemployment discussions in the House of Commons.

"During Tuesday's debate," he said, "two men with big political reputations spoke, namely, Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill. Did they put before the House constructive alternatives to the Government's policy as stated by myself? Did they prove that the case I had submitted to the House was a bad one?

"Not a bit of it. Mr. Churchill spent nearly the whole of his time in getting off his chest characteristic high-sounding language, humorously pulling the leg of Mr. Lloyd George, and knocking the Government about in proper circus style. As for Mr. Lloyd George, he spent the greater part of his speech getting back at Mr. Churchill, but ignoring the problem, and then all of a sudden becoming deadly serious and gratuitously asserting that the Government was not conscious of the gravity of the situation. This, after spending most of his time on a humorous knock-about with Mr. Churchill!

"It really does appear that some people, including the corner boy of the Conservative Front Bench, Sir Kingsley Wood, want the Government, instead of getting on with its work, to switch off work schemes and devote itself to the collection of illusory statistics.

"After all, Mr. Lloyd George is not good at figures to-day any more than he was at the time he fixed the German reparations in defiance of the advice he received from the economists and business men.

"One fact had arisen from the discussions, however," Mr. Morrison added. "Mr. Lloyd George now accepted the Government view that, as a whole, it was sound to assume that the expenditure of a million pounds on unemployment schemes employed directly and indirectly for a year 4,000 men. The Liberals had hitherto insisted that the figure was 5,000. This admission of Mr. Lloyd George meant, if it meant anything, that the Liberal figures as to the number of men on their schemes must be reduced by one in five, or twenty per cent.; but if they still adhered to their 5,000 figure they must add one in four, or twenty-five per cent., to the Government figure of men employed under present schemes."

HOTEL MANAGER STABBED.

WIFE ARRESTED.

Elizabeth Horwill, aged 49, described as of the Eden Park Hotel, Upper Elmers End, Beckenham, was charged at Bromley yesterday with causing grievous bodily harm to her husband, Percy Matthew Horwill, manager of the hotel, by stabbing him with a bread knife. Mrs. Horwill, who was in a state of collapse, had to be supported in the dock by two policemen.

Detective-Inspector Rosie said that at 9.30 a.m. yesterday he went to the Eden Park Hotel and told Mrs. Horwill that he would arrest her. She said "I don't care what happens now; you can do with me what you like." He took her to the police station where she was charged and made no reply.

Mrs. Horwill was remanded in custody until Wednesday in order that a doctor's report might be furnished.

SCOTTISH ANTIQUES.

A loan exhibition of Scottish Antiques and Historic Treasures will be held, by permission of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fleming, at 27, Grosvenor Square, W.1, from February 5 until February 22, and possibly for one more week.

It will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, 2.30 to 6 p.m. Sundays, and the entrance fee will be 2s. 6d., except on Fridays, when it will be 5s.

Members of the National Art Collections Fund, on presentation of their cards of membership, will be admitted (except on Fridays) at the reduced entrance fee of 1s. 6d.

The proceeds will be for the Time and Talents Guild, Dockhead Club Building Fund, Bermondsey, and the Scottish charities in London.

A NEW MAID OR MANSERVANT?—The help you require may be found in the Situations Bureau columns of the SUNDAY TIMES, or obtainable by advertising for it. The rate is 1s. a line. See page 20.

LIMITATION OF ARMS.

VISCOUNT CECIL'S APPEAL.

1931: THE CRITICAL YEAR.

FARCE OR REALITY?

In an appeal for Disarmament, issued through the League of Nations Union, Viscount Cecil states:—

"The year 1931 promises to be a critical one for the League of Nations. For it will depend upon the movements of public opinion during that year whether the first World Disarmament Conference, which will probably assemble at the beginning of 1932, is to be a farce or a reality. Unless that Conference results in a Treaty which will stop competition in all forms of armaments, subject them to effective limitation, and bring about such substantial reductions as were clearly intended by Article VIII. of the Covenant and anticipated by the defeated Powers at Versailles from the promises made to them by the Allies, the whole edifice of international peace will be shaken to its foundations."

Lord Cecil refers to the work of the Preparatory Commission in drawing up a Draft Treaty for Limitation of Armaments, both naval and military, and adds:—

"This Draft Treaty is not perfect, but it can be the basis of an effective Disarmament Treaty. It will be of the utmost value if, in the intervening period between now and the opening of the World Conference, public opinion can be aroused, informed and convinced of the need of all-round reduction, so that it will require the Governments to propose the lowest possible figures for insertion into the Treaty at that Conference. It is here that the leaders of religious and political thought and the public Press have a heavy responsibility and a great opportunity.

"What is to be the main contribution of the people of Great Britain to the success of the Conference? The first thing for them to realise is that international reduction of armaments is an essential condition of permanent peace, especially in view of the Treaty rights and obligations of Germany. It has always been true that peace is the greatest of British interests, and it is certainly not less true now than in the times past. If that be the case, we must throw our whole weight into the movement for disarmament, so that the coming Conference shall be a success. That means first hard work; and, secondly, readiness to support the Government of the day in any reasonable action that they may think necessary in order to secure serious reductions of national armaments."

2,500 CHILDREN TO GREET "PETER."

LEAGUE OF YOUTH'S MATINEE.

In all London yesterday afternoon there could have been no happier gathering than the crowd of grown-ups, as well as children, who attended the special matinée performance of "Peter Pan" at the London Palladium.

They were the guests of the "Daily Sketch" League of Youth, and twenty-eight boroughs of London were represented by the 2,500 boys and girls in the audience. Incidentally, there were twice as many children present yesterday as on former occasions when the newspaper has entertained poor children of London at this play.

It was a sheer delight to watch the children's faces as they followed breathlessly the adventures of Peter (played with such charm and imagination by Miss Jean Forbes-Robertson), Wendy (Miss Mary Casson), Michael Nicholas Darling (Freddie Springett), the Twins, and the other famous characters created by Barrie, including the Captain Hook of Mr. George Curzon. All of them worked together admirably to transport the audience for nearly three hours to the Land of Make-Believe.

The Lord Mayor of London was there in his magnificent red robes and plumed hat, along with the Lady Mayoress, his chaplain, the Rev. Clarence May, Sheriff and Mrs. Jenks, and Mrs. D. George Collins. Mr. Denis Collins deputised for his father, Sheriff Collins, who was absent in Cornwall.

A roar of welcome went up when the Lord Mayor, Peter Pan, Wendy, and Captain Hook appeared before the curtain during an interval. "We are all children here this afternoon," remarked Sir Phené Neal. "None of us is grown up."

"This is the eighth time the 'Daily Sketch' has been able to invite young Londoners to a performance of this wonderful play at Christmastide," said Dr. J. M. Bulloch, of Allied Newspapers, "and to-day's matinée is the very first good deed of the League of Youth."

The children were regaled with chocolates and other good things, and when at last the curtain rang down a fleet of omnibuses conveyed them homeward.

FARTHING CLUB RIOT.

SECRETARY REMANDED TO GAOL FOR SAFETY.

A scene outside the shop of the secretary of a Farthing Club when depositors, who feared the loss of their money, caused a riot was described at Willesden police-court yesterday.

Harry Whitling, aged 49, confectioner, of Harrow Road, Kensal Green, was charged, on his own confession, with stealing £300, the money of the Whitling Farthing Club, of which he was secretary and treasurer. It was stated that on the day before the money should have been paid out Whitling gave himself up to the police, and said: "I have to pay out £300 to my Christmas club members to-morrow, and I have got nothing."

Detective-sergt. Woods said police protection had had to be given at the shop that morning, as the club members had caused a riot when they heard that their money was gone. For prisoner's own personal protection he asked that Whitling might be remanded in custody. It would certainly not be safe for him to be out at present.

Under the circumstances the accused was remanded in custody.

CIVIC GUARDS KILLED.

Two Civic Guards, Sergeant Timothy Kelly, of Castletownbere, Co. Cork, and Sergeant Hartigan, a native of Gort, were killed, and Sergeant H. O'Driscoll, also of Castletownbere, was injured when a car in which they were travelling burst into flames and crashed against a bridge near Nenagh.

ACCOUNTANT FOUND DEAD.

The discovery was made yesterday on the estate of Grandhome Persley, near Aberdeen, by a shooting party, of the body of a man lying in the undergrowth. By the man's body was an empty bottle.

The police removed the body to the mortuary at Aberdeen for identification, and in the afternoon it was found to be that of Colin Hay, a 33-year-old London chartered accountant, who on Sunday disappeared from the Balgownie Nursing Home, Aberdeen. He was supposed to be suffering from loss of memory.

MOTOR MATTERS

THE HIGHWAY CODE.

LONDON-EXETER TRIAL

By GEORGE C. STEAD.

Motorists have had an opportunity of studying the draft of the long-awaited Highway Code, which will be available in its final form on January 1. A failure to observe any provision of the Highway Code will not of itself render anyone liable to criminal proceedings; but in either criminal or civil proceedings "any such failure may be relied upon by a party to the proceedings as tending to establish or to negative any liability which is in question."

The first impression of a study of the draft is its length. With the knowledge that non-observance may make his case worse, the cautious motorist would try to memorise the whole of it, which is obviously impossible. It will therefore be advisable to carry a copy and to consult it from time to time. The second impression, from the motorist's point of view, is that it gives advice to *all* road users. The new Traffic Act, in spite of its name, deals solely with users of mechanical transport. Drivers of horse-drawn vehicles, persons in charge of animals, pedal cyclists, and even pedestrians, have their rules of conduct laid down.

There are two points with which I do not fully agree, that referring to the change of the rule of the road for led animals, and that referring to the giving of signals by pedestrians. As regards the first, I fail to see how the person in charge of the animals can be made aware of overtaking traffic. With regard to signals by pedestrians, we already have too many signals, many of them unintelligible, and to suggest to the foot walker that he, too, should join in the merry game, is scarcely going to assist in the smooth flow of traffic, which, after all, is the purpose of the Code.

The draft has been circulated among the various authorities and representatives of other interests concerned for their observations.

THE LONDON-EXETER TRIAL.

At 8 p.m., on Boxing Night, the first man in the London Exeter trial organised by the Motor Cycling Club will leave Virginia Water. There are 299 entries, made up to sixty-one solo motor-cycles, twenty-four sidecars, eleven cycle-cars, and 203 cars. These figures show how the tendency nowadays is towards cars. In the old days, as the title of the club suggests, the trial was almost exclusively for motor-cycles.

The last car will leave at 12.16 a.m. on Saturday, so it will be seen that the procession will take four hours and a-quarter to pass any given point. The route has been chosen to ensure the minimum of annoyance to those on the course who wish to sleep.

For the benefit of intending spectators the following times of arrival of the first man may be of interest:—Shaftesbury (breakfast) 12.23 a.m.; Devenish Pit Hill, 3.49 a.m.; Exeter (second breakfast), 5.8 a.m.; Higher Rill Hill, 6.30 a.m.; Harcombe Hill, 7.21 a.m.; Meerhay, 8.54 a.m.; Cerne Abbas (Black Hill), 10.14 a.m.; Ibberton Hill, 11 a.m., and Shaftesbury (finish), 11.58 a.m.

I gave details of the competition in a previous issue, and from those it will have been seen that the chief points of interest from a spectator's point of view are the test hills, particularly Black Hill, where a re-starting and acceleration test will take place.

MOTORING IN FRANCE.

A long-felt want of the British motorist visiting France is met by a new book recently published by the R.A.C. entitled "The Rule of the Road in France." The book contains the whole of the French "Code de la Route," a knowledge of which is essential to every motorist touring in France, the Police regulations in Paris, complete information regarding Triptyques, Customs Carnets and French taxation, an English-French translation of the principal technical terms required by motorists, official road classification and numbers, road signs, what to do in case of accident, and various capacity and measurement tables.

I am informed that this is the first time that the French regulations have been printed in English, and no motorist proposing to take a car or motor-cycle to France should be without a copy of this book, which costs 1s. from the R.A.C.

Light lamps (London): 4.23 p.m.

RURAL AMENITIES.

HOW THEY ARE DEFINED IN PROTECTION BILL.

There is a breath of countryside in the first clause of the Rural Amenities Bill, the text of which was issued yesterday, which was presented early in November by Sir Hilton Young (Cons.), with the support of Miss Picton-Tuberville (Soc.) and Mr. Macpherson (Lib.).

The clause states that "the expression 'rural amenities' means the beauty of the landscape or rural scenery and the enjoyment of the countryside, including fields, trees, woods, hills, valleys, cliffs, foreshores, streams, commons, open spaces, village greens, ways, buildings, or groups of buildings, space about buildings, gardens, and other features with picturesque characteristics, historic associations, archæological interest or architectural merit."

Provision is made in the Bill for protection of these beautiful and historic places by owners, local authorities, and the Minister of Health.

MAIL AND STEAMSHIP NEWS.

THE MAILS.

ATSUTA MARU (N.Y.K.) for Melbourne left Nagasaki, 20.
DUCHESS OF RICHMOND (Canadian Pacific) from St. John, N.B., arrived Liverpool, 20.
ESPERANCE BAY (Aberdeen Commonwealth) for London left Sydney, 20.
FRIESLAND (H.A.L.) Yokohama for Hamburg arrived Manila, 20.
HAKUSAN MARU (N.Y.K.) for London left Shimonoseki, 20.
KALYAN (P. and O.) Yokohama for London left Hong Kong, 20.
KARMALA (P. and O.) Otaru for London arrived Marseilles, 20.
KHANDALLA (B.I.) from Port Natal arrived Bombay, 20.
MADURA (B.I.) for Beira left Gravesend, 20.
MAIN (N.D.L.) for Sydney left Brisbane, 20.
MAJESTIC (W. Star) from New York arrived Southampton, 20.
MALOJA (P. and O.) London for Brisbane arrived and left Adelaide, 20.
MASHOBRA (B.I.) for Hamburg left Calcutta, 20.
MAKURA (U.S.N.Z.) from San Francisco arrived Sydney, 20.
NAGOYA (P. and O.) for Calcutta left Gravesend, 20.
NALDERA (P. and O.) London for Brisbane left Marseilles, 20.
NARDANA (B.I.) from Swansea arrived Sydney, 20.
PORT CAMPBELL (C. and D.) for Continent left Adelaide, 20.
PORT DENISON (C. and D.) for Townsville left Brisbane, 20.
PORT HUNTER (C. and D.) from New York arrived Wellington, 20.
PORT HUON (C. and D.) from London arrived Wellington, 20.
TANGANJIKA (H.A.L.) for Hamburg left Tanga, 20.
TALAMBA (B.I.) for Hong Kong left Singapore, 20.
TATSUTA MARU (N.Y.K.) San Francisco for Hong Kong left Shanghai, 20.
TAKADA (B.I.) from Osaka arrived Calcutta, 20.
UMONA (Bullard) London for Beira arrived Beira, 20.
UMVUMA (Bullard) Port Natal for London arrived Table Bay, 20.
WAIKAWA (U.S.N.Z.) Vancouver for Napier left Lyttelton, 20.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

COL DI LANA for Trieste left Colombo, 20.
CONCORDIA from Tarakon arrived Melbourne, 20.
GOLDENFELS for Bremen arrived Madras, 20.
MARGRETHE for Copenhagen left Gravesend, 20.
MELISKERK from Hamburg arrived Beira, 20.
NASSA from Singapore arrived Brisbane, 20.
SANDAR for Port Natal left Singapore, 20.
TAPTI for Havana left Calcutta, 20.

Rugby Football.

LESSONS OF SECOND ENGLISH TRIAL.

LIKELY "THREES"—THE PROBLEM OF THE HALVES.

A PROBABLE ENGLAND FULL BACK?

By D. R. GENT.

Probables 31 pts., Possibles 11.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Saturday.

I am not sure that the selectors were helped quite so much in this trial as they were at Liverpool. There was again an orgy of scoring, the Probables winning by three goals a dropped goal, and a penalty goal and three tries to a goal and two tries. It was, on the whole, however, an interesting game, with occasionally some brilliant play.

As far as the full-backs were concerned, chief honours went to L. L. Bedford, who improved on the first trial, and with Brown not available, he must be well in the running for his cap, as he was much better than both J. G. Askew and E. P. Whiteley, who came on at half-time.

Of the three-quarters, the Probables' line did well, but not too well, though it is hardly likely to be disturbed except perhaps for Booth.

Aarvold was opposed to Booth, and quite subdued him, though it is only fair to say that Booth had not many really good chances. On the other side the best men were easily J. A. Tallent and Aarvold. Tallent was very resourceful and made one or two perfect openings.

Coming to the half-backs, T. J. Barrington was again outstanding, more, perhaps, as an individual than as a player to set his three-quarters going smoothly. Still, he is a prolific scorer himself, and he and Burland know each other's play to a nicety, and these two would be dangerous against any defence. Without a doubt Barrington, even with his limitations, is the best outside half we have. H. C. Laird was not very good, and S. C. Meikle, who came on at half-time, was a decided improvement, though I must say I did not like this idea of changing half-backs in particular at half-time.

The scrum halves were both good, C. B. Carter hardly ever missed his partner, and did a lot of good all-round work. Still, E. B. Pope was again very good indeed, and really is a capital player, despite his lack of inches. There might be some justification for playing Pope and Barrington against Carter and Meikle in the next match, but much, too, might be said against it. I hope the pairs will be opposed again as they were in the second half of this match.

In the very powerful Probables pack I rather thought the disappointments were D. H. Swayne, D. A. Kendrew and M. S. Bonaventura. The former certainly did not reproduce his Varsity match form, nor Bonaventura that of his first trial. R. F. Davey did better, and I thought him decidedly promising and worthy of a still further trial. The other wing forward might be R. Bolton or P. W. Brook, for Bolton was again more than promising. In the second half Hordern went from the front row to the second row, and this improved his play considerably, as it did that of the whole pack.

I do not think one need be afraid of the English pack. It will be useful, to say the least. The forward play improved a good deal on the other side when R. Sparks came on at half-time and took on the task of hooking, and the pack then gave Sam Tucker and his men quite a good game. H. Rew was in capital form, and I should not be surprised if he got back into the English side again.

Speaking very generally, the game showed that there is quite a lot of good talent in the country, and one can look forward to the Welsh match with more than a fair amount of confidence. The greatest need is for Barrington to add to his obviously great ability the art of setting his three-quarters going more smoothly.

The Play.

The rather homely Weston ground looked quite gay to-day, and the weather conditions were delightful. There was quite a good crowd present, though there was room for more when the game started. The inclusion of Laird for L. H. Collison was a good move, and one felt that he was quite the man to test Barrington.

Among the spectators was T. W. Brown, who was seriously injured a few weeks ago. He was making his first appearance since his accident, and looked cheery, though heavily bandaged about the head.

Aarvold captained the Possibles. Laird's kick-off was well supported by his forwards, and with the backs taking a hand as well, the Possibles attacked strongly to begin with. Tucker, with a strong dash, tried to clear, but Pope stopped the rush splendidly. The Probables were penalised for obstruction, and Bedford took a shot at goal, but it was not a particularly good effort.

At last Barrington stopped Laird and neatly gave a capital pass to MacCanlis, who sent Harrison away to beat Bedford cleverly and score. Black failed with the kick.

With their forwards improving, the Probables backs got more of the ball, Carter feeding Barrington very well indeed. The outside half was well marked, though, and was often forced to kick. A strong run by Burland should have led to a second Probables try, but MacCanlis knocked-on. A free for scrum infringement enabled Black to kick a goal, giving his side a six points' lead.

This was after about a quarter of an hour's play. Next a neat kick ahead found Askew rather out of position, and he was lucky to recover after a bad fumble. McCanlis was at fault a minute later, for with his wing outside him and no one to beat he chose to pass inside to Burland, the pass being decidedly "forward." The game continued dull for some minutes, till Harrison livened things up with a solo effort.

His effort to beat Bedford was not good, and the full-back put him down very definitely. Barrington earned a lot of applause and deserved it by taking a difficult pass beautifully. Then the Possibles should have scored. Tallent made the prettiest opening of the match so far, and left his wing, Sever, with quite an easy chance had he the pace of a wing. But he was decidedly slow in going for the line, and Askew caught him.

For a change the game now swung towards the Probables' right wing, but Booth found Aarvold very much awake, and the old Cambridge captain collared him every time. A neat run by Harrison gave the Probables a good position, and in some loose play Barrington picked up and dropped a capital goal.

The Probables kept up the pressure, and after Burland had run well, he put in a clever kick ahead that Bedford fielded beautifully, and he put in an equally beautiful kick to touch. A very business-like piece of work between Novis and Aarvold gave the latter a half a chance that he all but used to the full. A heavy tackle of Burland by Bedford shook up the Bristol man, and for a minute or two he was unable to go on. Shortly afterwards the whistle went with the Probables leading by 10 points.

Half-backs Changed.

At half-time S. C. Meikle took the place of Laird and R. Sparks the place of Sinton in the Possibles side, and E. C. P. Whiteley replaced J. G. Askew in the Probables side. Almost at once the new men were prominent, Meikle testing Whiteley with a kick that the full-back was quite equal to. The Possibles' forwards got going quickly, and, after Aarvold had run well on the left, the ball went beautifully along the line, and Sever scored his side's first try. Bedford kicked a gorgeous goal right from the touch-line.

This was a much better game, for at once the Probables retaliated, and after Barrington had been tackled in possession, the ball got loose, and Davey forced his way over for Burland to kick a goal, but back came the Possibles, making an interesting match of it, and Aarvold ran well before kicking across. Then came a magnificent move in which half the pack and some of the backs joined, and it ended in McCanlis scoring in the left-hand corner. This was really high-class football. Black missed the difficult kick.

The Probables' pack was now playing well, and it was only a very plucky effort by Pope that kept them from scoring. Once the impetuosity of Davey led to a penalty for offside, and Bedford tried for goal. It was a very fair shot, though it was not successful.

A typical wriggling run by Barrington gave his side a splendid position, and when he passed to McCanlis the latter was clear, but the pass was "forward." The Probables had not to wait long though, for Harrison slipped Sever neatly, and scored a good try that Burland failed to convert. Almost at once the same side scored again, Barrington engineering an opening that left Burland quite clear. Black converted.

Not in the least discouraged, the Possibles went at their formidable opponents, and Meikle and Tallent combined beautifully, for the latter to score an unconverted try. Aarvold added another. Then, just on time, Barrington got yet another try for his side that Burland converted, to complete the scoring.

TEAMS.

PROBABLES.—J. G. Askew (Cambridge University); L. Booth (Headingley), M. A. McCanlis (Gloucester), D. W. Burland (Bristol), and A. C. Harrison (Hartlepool Rovers); T. J. M. Barrington and C. B. Carter (Bristol); P. C. Hordern (Newport), J. S. Tucker (Bristol), D. A. Kendrew (Woodford), M. S. Bonaventura (Blackheath), B. H. Black (Blackheath), R. F. Davey (Leytonstone), P. D. Howard (Oxford University), and D. H. Swayne (Oxford University).

POSSIBLES.—L. L. Bedford (Headingley); H. S. Sever (Sale), J. A. Tallent (Cambridge University), A. L. Novis (Blackheath), and C. D. Aarvold (Headingley); J. C. Laird (Harlequins) (first half) and S. C. Meikle (Waterloo) (second half), and E. B. Pope (Blackheath); H. Rew (the Army and Exeter), J. R. Sinton (Headingley), P. T. Cooper (Rosslyn Park), G. P. C. Vallance (Leicester), M. Wilson (Plymouth Albion), R. Bolton (Wakefield), E. H. Harding (Royal Navy and Devonport Services), and A. G. Cridlan (Oxford University).

Referee: Mr. B. C. Cumberlege.

OLD BLUES BADLY BEATEN.

WASPS CONTINUE THEIR RUN OF VICTORIES.

Wasps 21 pts., Old Blues 0.

The Wasps received a visit from Old Blues, at Sudbury, and continued their run of victories by beating their visitors by three goals and two tries to nil. The game started at a good pace, both sides endeavouring to make it as open as possible, and during the first half every yard of ground was keenly contested. The Wasps were getting much more of the ball, and in consequence their outsides were frequently on the attack. From one of these movements Stevens went over, after beating several defenders, and Compton landed a goal.

The Wasps opened the second half with great dash, and Cooke scored twice inside five minutes, Compton converting both tries. This sudden reverse made the Old Blues set up several forward attacks, but they met a sure defence, and play went back to the Blues' territory. The Old Blue outsides tried hard to get going, but with Bruford and Jeans both scoring further tries, the Wasps ran out good winners.

SMART SCOTTISH VICTORY.

Rosslyn Park 4 pts., London Scottish 6.

London Scottish defeated Rosslyn Park at Richmond by 6 points to 4. The Scottish had what appeared on paper to be a weak team, but the first half was fairly evenly contested. The Park failed to score, but Robertson and Miers each obtained an unconverted try for the Scottish.

Early in the second half Miers and Adams gained fifty yards with a good passing movement, and ten minutes later Adams just missed scoring for the Scottish. Then Collins dropped a goal for the Park. The ensuing play was strenuous and exciting, but there was no further scoring.

Thus in an evenly contested game London Scottish proved themselves the better side. The Scottish defence, backs and forwards alike, was specially good, and the Park backs seemed to lose hope of getting through by means of passing movements. Collins at stand-off half, and Hunt at full-back, were good individually, but there was no cohesion behind the scrum, and whenever the ball did get out to the wings, a Scottish player was at hand to take the man with the ball.

Lewis and Iliffe were the most prominent of a useful set of forwards, who, however, were scarcely as good in the loose as the Scottish eight, of whom the two MacLennans, Aitchison, Robertson, and Walker were the pick.

The Scottish were without their star backs, but the deputies played a wonderfully good game. Marshall, at full back, was sound and reliable, and Adams and Cross were resourceful three-quarters. The Park had slightly the better of matters in the first half.

LONDON IRISH'S FIRST DEFEAT.

Nottingham 8 pts., London Irish 0.

London Irish paid a visit to Nottingham, and the game attracted a capital crowd. The first half was well contested. Nottingham were the first to attack, but Berry was stopped by Ivers, the visiting full-back, when nearly over. Some good work by Lord Mandeville relieved the pressure, but the Irish returned to the attack, and the pressure was checked with difficulty. King failed to make the most of a pass near the Notts line, and at the interval neither side had scored.

Notts pressed strongly in the first part of the second half, and Bunney, from a fifteen yards' scrum, sent Derry over for a try which Mosey converted. Five minutes later the home forwards went over in body, Whitcroft touching down for an unconverted try. The London Irish retaliated with desperate raids, King being especially prominent, but the Notts defence remained sound. This is the London team's first defeat of the season, but they were weakly represented.

A WELL-CONTESTED GAME.

Harrow 6 pts., Southend 9.

Southend visited Sudbury and defeated Harrow by three tries (9 pts.) to two tries (6) after a very hard game. In the first ten minutes Southend pressed and Seel went over near the posts to give them the lead, but the kick failed. Nearing the interval Harrow drew level, when Elliott-Smith touched down near the corner, after a good run. During the second half play was chiefly among the forwards, and, following a rush by the visiting pack, MacLean scored a try. Gibson soon retaliated with a try for Harrow. Southend, however, returned to the attack, and Rudd completed the scoring by going over, following really good work by the Southend forwards.

OLD PAULINES' GOOD PLAY.

Old Paulines 17 pts., Bank of England 0.

The Old Paulines were too good for the Bank of England at Thames Ditton. After several movements had just failed, Klemin crossed for the Old Paulines, Luxemburg adding the extra points. Afterwards Hann got away for the Bank, but Abelson came across and saved. In the second half the Old Paulines were dominant, and tries were scored by Salmons, Nicholls, Jenkel, and McLean. None was converted. The scrum work of the Old Paulines was good. McLean and Salmons opened up the game repeatedly.

SCOTTISH TRIAL.

ANGLO-SCOTS WIN BY A NARROW MARGIN.

DISAPPOINTING FORM.

Anglo-Scots 14 pts., N. and S. of Scotland 12.

Teams representative of the North and South of Scotland and Anglo-Scots met in a Scottish trial at Galashiels. Two changes were notified in the composition of the teams, one particularly vital. H. Lind, laid aside with influenza, was superseded by W. D. Emslie, Royal High School F.P.S., and D. M. Marr stood down and made way for A. R. Ramsay, who made a great name at Harrow. The ground was in perfect order, and the overhead conditions ideal for a fast game.

Greenlees started, and the ball was well fielded by Polson. From the scrum that followed the home forwards dribbled the length of the field, but were stopped by the good defence of Langrish. Once again the home Scots got the ball in the scrum, and passing was tried. Aitchison was held, however, and Emslie got offside. The penalty kick gained the Anglos ground.

Some fine passing next came from the Anglos Greenlees, Geddes and Hutton handling before the London-Scot sent Ian Smith speeding for the line. He easily dribbled past Dagger and scored at the corner. Langrish completed the good work by kicking a grand goal. Then the home lot had an innings, and from a penalty Allan was just short with a fine kick. Polson tackled Langrish before he could get rid of the ball, and Graham was held a second later on the line.

The South pressed and had distinctly hard luck in not scoring when Allan just missed kicking a penalty goal. A glorious break through by A. W. Wilson was the next feature. All his forwards were up in attandance, but Ritchie made an awful mistake in holding on too long with three men outside. He did not get rid of the ball, but the Anglos had time to recover, and Walker saved well.

Home Scots Improve and Score.

The home forwards were getting the better of matters in the set scrum, but Aitchison "buttered" his passes frequently, and tackling did the rest. Consequently many promising moves ended abruptly. Still, the impression was given that, had the passes not gone astray, the player might have gone through. The home Scots had another chance to reduce the leeway when a breakaway and kick ahead by Aitchison took them near the line. They got a penalty award, and this time Dagger made no mistake.

More pressure ended when Emslie attempted a drop at goal. The ball did not rise, and Langrish touched down. Another rush in traditional Border style ended in Graham scoring. Dagger missed an easy place-kick. From a combination point of view the game had been so far distinctly disappointing.

Vigour there was in plenty, but little of real international class. About this time the Anglo's showed better form, but Geddes was out of his class and several times failed to bring Ian Smith into action. Play consequently was often pulled up through mistakes. At half-time the North and South led by one penalty goal and one try to one placed goal.

The kick-off in the second half was recalled, as Aitchison did not get 10 yards. However, the Anglo's were the first to attack, and after Smith had sprinted down the line and kicked across the bounce of the ball alone kept Walker from scoring. Just as quickly play swept to the other end, and excellent inter-passing between Aitchison and Wood ended in the centre scoring. Dagger's kick for goal hit the post.

The home-Scots had a better understanding. The Anglo's seemed only to get a certain length when someone would spoil everything by making a bloomer. More forcing play by the home lot saw Allan force the ball ahead, and when it went high in the air, off a rebound, he galloped up and gathered to run over near the corner. He took the kick himself, but was wide of the mark.

More furious rushes by the home forwards kept the interest in the game, which on the whole was disappointing.

A free kick to the Anglos, well taken by Langrish, allowed them to get to the home 25 for the first time since the opening minutes. They did not keep their place long, for soon Aitchison and company got on the move, and it was only Hutton running across and bringing down Wood that saved another score. Then a surprising score fell to the Anglos. Crichton-Miller followed up passing by the three's and dribbled to near the line. Here McArthur was up and got a try, having little else to do but touch down. Langrish failed to goal.

More and more scrappy became the play, forward rushes and touch kickng being the chief items of interest. This was not very encouraging. Ford and Smith scored further tries for the Anglos, but Langrish missed the goal on each occasion.

OLD HAILEYBURIANS' BIG WIN.

Upper Clapton 3 pts., Old Haileyburians 24.

The first meeting of Upper Clapton and the Old Haileyburians ended in a win for the Old Boys by three goals, three tries (24 points) to a try (3 points). The game was played at Colindale, the pitch being exceedingly sticky, but the handling of the Old Boys was excellent, their centres running straight and hard. Upper Clapton tried experiments with their back division, but these were not very successful, and except for Roberts at full-back, the outsides were extremely weak. Upper Clapton's pack was the equal of the Old Boys forwards, and was ably led by Tucker, the hooking of Blacker being outstanding.

The Old Boys scored three times in the first half through Venables, Joscelyne, and Hannay, Drouglefyer converting one. In the second half Hannay, Corsellis, and Holmes scored two more tries, goals being registered by Drouglefyer. Upper Clapton's try was scored by Wey, following a fine run by Clarke.

GREAT WIN FOR RUGBY.

Rugby 29 pts., Old Alleynians 8.

Rugby, playing brilliant football, beat Old Alleynians by four goals and three tries to one placed goal and one penalty goal. Rugby were much the better team all through, their forwards being too strong for the Old Boys, and the backs, who combined brilliantly, were much faster than the opposition. In the first half Entwistle converted tries scored by Howell, Livingston, and himself, and Stark kicked a penalty goal for the Old Alleynians. Soon after the resumption Dixon got a try for the Old Boys, Hippenstall converting, and then Facer and Smith (three) scored tries for Rugby, Frankton converting one. Smith, the Warwickshire winger, was in great form, and Stark and Heppenstall played well for the visitors.

ESHER'S CLEVER FORWARDS.

Esher 6 pts., Beckenham 0.

A good game was provided by Beckenham at Esher, where the home side did most of the attacking, and won by 2 tries to nil. The first half was even until just before half-time, when Woodward broke away, and, kicking ahead, just beat the full-back for an unconverted try. Although packing rather loosely, the Esher forwards generally got the ball from the set scrums.

Foster, for Beckenham, put in some good forward play until he had to temporarily retire through injury. Falletti, on the left-wing, made the most of his chances. Downey, for Esher, kicked with judgment. After crossing over Esher again kept play in their opponents' "25," and E. D. Foord and T. R. Green were well to the fore in some spirited forward rushes. Woodward just failed to repeat his first-half try. Beckenham began a series of attacks, but made the mistake of playing into the safe hands of Boswell, Esher's new full-back. Morris and D. Feeney both had several chances for Beckenham, but the Esher defence held out.

AN EASY VICTORY.

Berkshire Wanderers 32 pts., Old Haberdashers 0.

The Old Haberdashers, playing six reserves at Reading, lost to Berkshire Wanderers by 32 points to nil, but put up a good fight. The Wanderers' outsides were well served with the ball by Talbot, scrum half, and Shaw. Outram was always dangerous. The visitors' pack did well in the tight, but the Wanderers were faster in the loose, and backed up well. Thompson converted three tries, two from the touch line, and also kicked a good penalty goal.

OLD DUNSTONIANS DEFEATED.

Old Dunstonians 3 pts., K.C.S. Old Boys 13.

The Old Dunstonians lost to K.C.S. Old Boys by 13 points to 3 at Beckenham. In the first half the winners pressed continually, but only scored once through Ridgway. In the second, with the advantage of the slope, the home side attacked, but only scored once, Wood going over in the corner. For King's, Collin and Powell scored further tries. Powell converted both. The bad state of the grounds made good football impossible, but the visitors deserved their victory. For Old Dunstonians Morris, Richards and Waller played splendidly, while Muir hooked well.

SURPRISE FOR SERVICES.

OUTPLAYED IN THE LATER STAGES.

TAYLORS' RAPID SCORING.

Old Merchant Taylors 23 pts., United Services (Portsmouth) 5.

The United Services (Portsmouth) gave an improved display when meeting the Old Merchant Taylors at Teddington under excellent conditions, and before a small attendance. Fast and open play marked the game from the start. The Services showed greater speed and were better together behind the scrum than the Taylors, who, however, scored an early unconverted try through Turnbull. But the Services pressed hard afterwards, and a fine dribble by Morgan led to a try by Cavaye, which Gosling converted. The Services lost Burch, injured, just before half-time.

The Taylors showed much improvement all round in the second half, and H. B. Head cut through smartly for a try, Tebbutt converting. Ten minutes later Turnbull ran with splendid determination for another try, which was not converted. Two further tries by Turnbull and a dropped goal by Bywater placed the Taylors well in front, especially as Tebbutt converted one.

R. G. Turnbull was beyond doubt the man of the match. To score four tries, narrowly failing on two other occasions, argues something more than usual in determination. That the Taylors played upon the weak wing, when A. R. Burch had gone off injured, was natural, but their ability to carry out these tactics was a tribute to the soundness of their handling, in which Hecks, L. Bywater and G. E. Bancombe bore an honourable part.

D. M. Parry, at full-back, though he made one bad mistake, easily outshone C. G. Gosling, who was uncertain in his touch-finding and slow in getting to the tackle. Both packs put in some exhilarating loose rushes, but the Taylors were more finished in this branch of the game, and also, man for man, quicker at spotting the ball in a mix-up.

The re-appearance of J. W. Forrest after his injury aroused interest. He started in great style, but, as was only natural in the circumstances, faded away towards the end. The Services' pack, playing with so many reserves, never quite got together. Their greatest failure was in marking at the line-out, where the Taylors got the ball with ease and regularity.

T. A. K. Maunsell did quite well at scrum-half, but T. S. Lee, playing at fly-half, was slow, and persistently closed up the game by kicking to touch. The Service three-quarters had very few chances, but when they had them they did not give the impression of being a dangerous attacking force. Burch, until he was hurt, did as well as any of them, but they were all easily taken by surprise by simple manœuvres, and their tackling was not nearly firm enough.

The back-play of the Taylors' outsides though flattered by circumstances, was as bright as anybody could desire.

COVENTRY RECOVER.

VAIN EFFORT BY GUY'S.

Coventry 13 pts., Guy's Hospital 6.

Guy's Hospital surprised 6,000 spectators at Coventry by a very finished and spirited display.

Guy's were twice held up early on by magnificent tackling by Boucher, the Coventry full-back, who was making his first appearance. Clarke then opened the score for Coventry with a try, which Blake converted, but Thomas and Hogbin scored unconverted tries for the Hospital in quick succession.

Coventry's heavy attacks in the second half were met by a superb defence that kept the Hospital lines clear for a long time. Eventually, Coulson made the way for Campbell to race over for a try that put the home team ahead. A fine forward struggle was next seen, but Coventry held the upper hand at the end, Rowley adding a try that Blake converted.

A remarkable feature of the game was the tremendous pace and vigour maintained until the very end. It was a battle between two fine teams, and, though tackling was exceptionally hard, a sporting spirit made the match unusually enjoyable.

Coventry did rather more attacking than the Hospital, and deserved their win. Two factors told in their favour. The first was that their forwards were successful in the scrummaging. Roberts, their young hooker, got the ball five times out of six, so that the promising Hospital backs had far fewer chances than did Coventry. The second factor in favour of Coventry was the superb tackling of Boucher, the home full-back, who on four occasions prevented apparent scores by getting his men low and hard. It would seem that Boucher, who is the son of an old Welsh International and Newport player, has satisfactorily solved Coventry's full-back problem.

Guy's backs were better as a combination than Coventry's lot, and the home movements broke down because of faulty passing in the centre. Windsor Lewis played cleverly for the visitors, especially in the first half, but after the interval he was more closely watched by Mayo. Gascoigne, the Coventry scrum-half, did exceedingly well, and frequently gained ground from awkward positions with clever screw-kicks to touch. Lewis, at full-back for Guy's, seldom failed to find touch.

The Hospital defence was subjected to great pressure in the second half, and did well to concede only two tries in that period. The Hospital forwards were beaten only in scrummaging and were as good as those of Coventry in other phases of the game. Popplewell was a good leader, and Morgan was an effective winger. Hogbin was not so accurate as usual in place-kicking, but none of the positions was easy. Coulson and Potter were Coventry's best forwards.

A ROUSING GAME.

Old Cranleighans 8 pts., London Welsh 14.

After a rousing struggle the Old Cranleighans lost to London Welsh at home by 8 points to 14. Play in the first half was mostly of a ragged order, but towards the interval both sides began to settle down. Handling was generally poor on account of the greasy ball, but the Welsh backs always looked fast and dangerous, several tries being saved, Old Cranleighans other wings getting across to tackle just in time. Fine opportunism after fifteen minutes enabled A. M. Jones to cross for the Welsh, and Jones Davies kicked the goal. Then followed a period with the homesters mostly in the Welsh ground, but R. Thomas broke away, and after a long run scored. G. Lambert nearly scored for Old Cranleighans after running from half-way, but slipped when passing the full back. J. E. Beynon broke away with the ball at his feet, and in a ragged scramble in front of goal sent the ball out for Beynon to gather and force his way over. Lee converted. A great struggle ensued in the second half. Old Cranleighans had many opportunities, and were unlucky to have two penalties awarded against the Welsh. R. Thomas and W. T. Lewis scored for the Welsh, and Lee kicked a penalty goal for the Old Boys.

SPONG'S STRATEGY.

Old Leysians 0 pts., Old Millhillians 8.

Old Millhillians gained a smart victory over Old Leysians at Wandsworth by one goal and one try (eight points) to nothing. The Old Leysians had the better of the forward play, especially in the scrums, where C. N. S. Boston usually secured the ball for his side. The extra speed of the Millhillians' outsides and the strategy of Spong at fly-half, however, turned the scales for the visitors. In spite of a greasy ball, both sides did their best to open up the game, but the tackling was resolute, and for the most part the defences held the upper hand.

Lawther, kicking a fine length, played soundly at full-back for the Millhillians, while Twiner, who appeared for the first time in the same position for the Leysians, also did well. Ramsay, Benham, and Lapthorn were the best of the Millhillian pack, while N. Boston, Holloway, and Lumsden stood out in the Leysian rushes. In the first half Spong scored a try for the Millhillians, which Harris converted, and later on Harris increased this with an unconverted try.

STAINES WIN AGAIN.

Old Wimbledonians 0 pts., Staines 18.

Staines were prominent in the early stages of the game against the Old Wimbledonians at Richmond Park.

After some loose scrum play, Sutherland forced his way over, the try being converted by Simpson. Later Simpson made a mark on the Old Wimbledonians' 25 line and scored from the kick. Play was fast until the interval, and in the second half Sturt broke his way through from the half-way line and crossed, for Simpson to add the extra points. Just before the end the Old Wimbledonians' back kicked into Simpson's hands for him to ground between the posts. Simpson converted his own try.

RICHMOND BEAT BLACKHEATH.

MORE EFFECTIVE IN LOOSE RUSHES.

CLEVER HANDLING.

Richmond 8 pts., Blackheath 3.

So ample are their resources that for all the demands of the Trial game at Weston-super-Mare, Blackheath were able to field a strong side for their fixture with Richmond at the Athletic Ground, but Richmond gave them a hard game and won by a goal and a try against a try.

Not for a long time have Richmond played so well, and, as the result, the game was always interesting, with little to choose between the two sides. There was a good deal of fine football by both fifteens. The game was remarkable for much hard scrummaging. Richmond were, perhaps, the more effective in the loose rushes, but outside neither side could claim any real superiority in attack, while the marking and tackling all round was excellent.

The Richmond halves, R. Burgess and D. L. Maclean, were rather better together than W. E. W. Kendall and W. E. Millard, but on both three-quarter lines there was much clever, clean handling and resolute running for the line. The Richmond centres, of whom C. P. M. Green was inclined to hang on to the ball too long, were not as sound as C. C. Bishop and the Dark Blue, P. C. Minns, but though W. A. H. Chapman rarely had the ball, J. Wright, who has recently been promoted from the "A" team, showed good form on the other wing. D. F. Ryan, as usual, rendered excellent service to his side at full-back, extricating them from perilous positions several times by his adroit kicking under pressure. H. E. Douty was the more dangerous of the Blackheath wing men, while S. T. A. Radliffe did well for them at full-back.

Into their stride at once, Richmond carried the game to their opponents' twenty-five. Though they kept up the pressure, the game had been in progress eighteen minutes before they succeeded in scoring. Then Burgess got away, and Maclaren, on being tackled, gave an inside pass to C. R. Hopwood, who got over for Ryan to place the goal. It was a fine game for the rest of the first half with the fortunes constantly alternating, many strong attacks on both sides failing before the excellence of the defence.

Within three minutes of the game being resumed, Richmond scored again, Ward picking up from a loose scrum in the visitors' twenty-five and crossing for a try which was not improved.

From that point, Blackheath had rather the better of the struggle, but their only success was a try by Minns, which G. N. Wentworth narrowly missed converting.

'QUINS IRRESISTIBLE STYLE

GREAT MOVES UPSET BIRKENHEAD.

Harlequins 19 pts., Birkenhead Park 5.

The Harlequins had quite an interesting game at Twickenham with Birkenhead Park.

The ground was very greasy, but scrambling play led to an early Harlequins' score. Reeve got over wide out, but Hubbard missed the kick. A better try by Gibbs, which Hubbard, converted, preceded a lovely try by Wilson for the visitors. Richardson converted this one.

The Harlequins opened the second half in characteristic style and soon sent the score up. In a scramble Dean scored, for Hubbard to convert. The latter then kicked a penalty goal, and Reeves finished off a fine three-quarter movement wide out. Hubbard just failed with the kick.

The Park were disappointing on this day's showing. Their forwards began as if they were going to push the Harlequin pack out of the ground. They got the ball in the tight scrummages with marked regularity, and their play in the loose was equally deadly. Then, after half-time they appeared to have shot their bolt. They were not the same force at all,, and, thus encouraged, the home pack set about them and got their own back with interest.

In spite of the forward battle which went on all the time, it was the Harlequins' superiority in the centre of the three-quarter line which won the match. Both G. C. Adams and P. E. Hodge were always trying new tactics to beat their man and so give their wings a chance. J. S. R. Reeve was in great form. His last try was typical of him. He simply hurled himself over the line, and three Park players could not stop him. J. C. Hubbard was very sound at back, kicking with marked judgment. At stand-off J. R. Cole was better than E. W. Lovegrove, although he was not happy with the greasy ball.

Of the home forwards, M. L. P. Jackson was outstanding. He was the best forward on the field, and he must surely be considered now as one of the Harlequins best. He was ably supported by A. E. C. Prescott, P. W. Adams, and P. W. P. Brooke, although it is a little unkind to specialise in view of the magnificent team-spirit and combination shown by the home pack in the second half. It must be said, however, that they started very slowly.

The Park weakness was in the centre. Neither G. S. Wilson nor J. V. Richardson could get past their man, and eventually gave up trying, for punting to touch was hardly policy in view of the strength of the home forwards, who simply dribbled back the ground gained by the kick. J. B. Charles, on the left-wing, ran well when he had the chance, which was not often, and the other wing was also not given the opportunity to show his pace. C. O. Brigg, at full-back, showed plenty of pluck and kicked well.

ST. BART'S ECLIPSED.

BRILLIANT PLAY BY BATH.

Bath 35 pts., St. Bart's Hospital 8.

Bath overwhelmed their visitors, St. Bart's Hospital, before 3,000 spectators. Early on Hayden scored a brilliant try for Bath, which Banks converted. In the loose play Bath played effectively, and Powell gave Wilson a chance to score a great try, which Banks again converted. Bath were too speedy for St. Bart's, but Darmandy scored a try for the visitors, Ryan converting. Hancock, Spence, and Gerrard, however, added tries for Bath, Weeks converting one.

The visitors continued to be completely outclassed in the second half, and Hayden scored two fine tries for Bath, neither of which was converted. St. Bart's rallied, and Buckland was almost over the line, but Spence then added another great try for Bath, and Banks goaled. Bath threw the ball about and baffled the visitors, so that Hancock scored a further try. Finally, Kirkwood reduced the arrears with a try for St. Bart's.

STREATHAM FAIL.

Streatham 0 pts., Old Whitgiftians 11.

Streatham had all the best of matters forward in their game with Old Whitgiftians, who won by 11 points to nil, but the latter were definitely more dangerous behind the scrum. Streatham secured the ball five times out of seven in the tight and the line outs, but the Old Whitgiftians' tackling broke up the subsequent three-quarter movements, or forced a kick to touch. A penalty by Stutchbury gave the old boys three points lead. Streatham continued to attack forward, and were nearly over, a drop kick also just missing. The tackling was exceptionally good on both sides. In the last ten minutes Harrison and Boor scored for the Old Whitgiftians. Stutchbury adding the extra points for the latter try. For the Old Boys Percy and Ditlock were prominent in the loose.

WEIGHT TELLS ITS TALE.

N.P. Bank 22 pts., Old Dowegians 0.

National Provincial Bank beat the Old Dowegians at Lower Sydenham by 22 points to nil. William (2) Ratcliffe (2), Cracknell, and Wood scored the tries, Staunard converting one out of five, and Major one. The state of the ground spoilt good football. Both sets of backs broke down in what might have been scoring movements under better conditions. The Bank forwards were the superior owing to their weight, and Wood got the ball away from the scrum well. In the first half the loose work of the home forwards lacked cohesion, and some harder pushing in this department might have given better results. The Old Dowegians outhalf showed some determined running and gave his backs good openings which they failed to make use of. The tackling on the whole was keen and hard. Up to date the Bank have won twelve of the sixteen matches played.

SERVICES DRAW AT CHATHAM.

U.S. (Chatham) 3 pts., U.C.S. Old Boys 3.

The meeting of the Services and U.C.S. Old Boys at Chatham resolved itself into a struggle between the rival packs of forwards. It was a keen and well-contested game, and the ultimate result was a draw of 3 points each. M. Killett scored an unconverted try for the Services in the first half, Mackenzie equalising the points seven minutes from the close.

RUGBY RESULTS.

INTERNATIONAL TRIALS.

Probables	31	Possibles	11
Anglo-Scots	14	N. and S. Scotland	12

CLUB MATCHES.

Harlequins	19	Birkenhead Pk.	5
Richmond	8	Blackheath	3
Rosslyn Park	4	London Scottish	6
Coventry	13	Guy's Hosp.	6
Exeter	0	Plymouth Albion	0
Leicester	11	Bristol	0
Northampton	3	Gloucester	8
Neath	8	Cardiff	12
Headingley	25	Northern	8
Llanelly	11	Swansea	6
Newport	12	Aberavon	8
Ebbw Vale	8	Cross Keys	6
Wasps Ex. A	46	Upper Clapton III.	0
Wasps Ex. B	42	Upper Clapton C	5
Wasps Ex. C	9	Woodford Ex. C	3
S. Bank of S.A.	17	Barclays Bank	3
Pontypool	3	Abertillery	3
Edin. Acads.	7	Glasgow Acads.	25
Watsonians	19	W. of Scotland	3
Liverpool	6	Moseley	6
Bath	35	St. Bart's Hosp.	8
Wasps	21	Old Blues	0
L.C.C.	3	Wembley	0
Standard Tel.	5	T. Cook and Son	3
Nottingham	8	London Irish	0
Woodford	16	K. Col. Hosp.	8
Woodford A	51	K. Col. Hosp. A	0
Woodford B	34	Brit. House A	0
Woodford C	9	Rosslyn Pk. C	8
Woodford Ex. A	3	Old Elthamians A	15
Westminster Bank	13	Old Emanuel	6
Old Emanuel A	8	Westminster Bank A	3
Old Emanuel B	0	O.M.T.s B	16
Old Emanuel C	14	West. Bank Ex B	6
Old Paulines	17	Bank of England	0
Old Paulines A	8	Old Leysians A	3
Surrey C.C.	9	L.C.C. D	0
Upper Clapton A	3	Wasps A	24
Upper Clapton B	3	Wasps B	36
Esher	6	Beckenham	0
Esher A	3	Beckenham A	13
Esher Ex A	18	Beckenham Ex A	3
Esher B	11	Beckenham B	11
Manchester	21	Old Uppinghamians	0
Manchester Extra A	24	Bolton A.	0
Thanet Wanderers	12	Chatham H. (Rams.)	3
Westcombe Park	0	Catford Bridge	8
Catford Bridge B.	12	Westcombe Park A.	0
B.B.C.	3	Van den Berghs	24
Kingston	6	Rosslyn Park A.	5
Kingston A	8	Wimbledon A	11
Oxo	20	Finchley B.	3
Streatham A.	0	London Irish A.	11
Thames Valley	14	Tonbridge	8
Dorking	3	Rosslyn Park A.	11
Saracens C.	9	Twickenham C.	0
Centymca	5	Harpenden	6
P.L.A.	6	Portsmouth	9
Midland Bank	3	R. School of Mines	3
Midland Bank B	8	Toc H. A.	19
Sevenoaks	9	Maidstone	0
R.A.F. Records	0	B.T.H. (London)	11
Surrey Yeomanry A.	13	Barnet B.	5
Bedford	22	London Hospital	6
St. Thomas's Hosp.	9	H.A.C.	0
Saracens	17	Twickenham	0
Harrow	6	Southend	9
Q.W. and C.S. Rifles	11	H. and S. Bank A.	0
Q.W. and C.S. R. A	3	Gidea Park B	0
Harrow B.	11	Southend B.	3
Harrow Extra B.	5	Park House B.	3
Glasgow High School	23	Royal High School	3
Crewe and Nantwich	19	Welshpool	5
Ealing	12	Ilford Wanderers	5
Ealing B	8	Ilford Wanderers B	6
Sutton	11	Sidcup	8
Lensbury	3	West Herts	8
Britannic House	10	Honor Oak	17
N.P. Bank A	3	Lloyds Bank A	6
Lloyds Bank B	18	N.P. Bank B.	0
H.K. & Sh. Bank	0	Lloyds Bank	6
Slough	3	G.W.R.	3
Exiles	28	Finchley	0
Cosmo	6	Streatham C	3
Ilford Wand. A	3	Ealing A	7
Chiltern	11	Blackheath Ex. A	17
Barnet	21	Mid-Herts	3
Mid-Herts A	0	Barnet A	9
Old Birkonians	25	Liverpool II.	4
Old Birkonians II.	6	Sefton II.	8
Harpenden B	23	Y.M.C.A. B.	0
Tunbridge Wells	9	Orpington	3
Harpenden C	0	Office of Works	20
Clifton	16	Westleigh	0
Mullard	24	Wasps Ex. C	6
H.A.C. B	16	Artists Rifles B	0
Guildford	40	Law Society	0
Guildford B	19	Esher C	11
Finchley A	3	Chartered Accts.	12
Artists' Rifles	3	Richmond A	20
W'minster Bk. Ex A	11	London Welsh B	0
Sidcup A	9	Sutton A	6
Osterley A	9	Bantams	0
Bexley Heath	3	L.R.B.	4

OLD BOYS' MATCHES.

O.M. Taylors	23	U. Services (Ports.)	5
Rugby	29	Old Alleynians	8
O. Cranleighans	8	London Welsh	14
Gaflac	18	Old Blues D	8
Catford Bridge A	6	Old Blues A	3
O. Haileyburians	24	Upper Clapton	3
Saracens A	8	Old Albanians	0
Stones Ath. A	3	Old Blues C	0
Old Tiffinians	11	Rosslyn Park A	3
O. Hab'd'shers Ex A	16	Old Citizens	0
Old Whitgiftians	9	Streatham	0
O. Whitgiftians III.	9	Old Paulines B	8
O. Blues Nomads	28	Cuaco	0
Old Blues B	22	Stones Ath.	3
Old Blues Ex B	6	Northern Assur.	5
Old Dunstonians	3	K.C.S. Old Boys	13
H.A.C. A	14	Old Dunstonians A	0
Old Caterhamians	12	Warlingham A	13
Warlingham Ex A	9	O. Dunstonians Ex A	3
Old Dunstonians B	0	London Scottish B	27
Lon. Scottish Ex B	21	O. Dunstonians Ex B	0
Horsham	13	Old Azurians	6
Staines	18	Old Wimbledonians	0
Old Millhillians	8	Old Leysians	0
Harrow Ex. A	5	Old Stortfordians A	0
Harrow Ex. C	15	Old Whitgiftians VI.	3
H.A.C. A	14	Old Dunstonians A	0
H.A.C. C	15	O. Rutlishians C	13
K.C.S. Old Boys A	46	Civil Service A	0
Old Johnians	11	O. Hurst Johnians	0
Old Brockleians	20	Rosslyn Pk. Ex. A	4
Old Brockleians B	9	O. Md-Whitgiftians B	0
Old Albanians A	14	Saracens B	3
Warlingham	14	Old Haberdashers A	11
O.M.T.'s Ex. A	3	Toc H	53
Orpington A	3	Christ's Coll. O.Boys	10
N.P. Bank	22	Old Dowegians	0
O. Dartfordians	3	Guy's Hospital A	8
O. Alleynians Ex. A.	6	Southern Railway	6
Berkshire Wanderers	32	Old Haberdashers	0
Streatham Ex. B.	0	Old Haberdashers B	9
U.C.S. Old Boys	3	U.S. (Chatham)	3
U.C.S. Old Boys B	11	Old Haileyburians B	0
Saracens A	8	Old Albanians	0
Wycombe O. Boys A	11	Chiltern B	13
O. Redingensians	6	Windsor	3
O. Haileyburians A	5	U.C.S. Old Boys A	5
Old Mid-Whitgiftians	11	Bishop's Stortford	3
O. Berkhamstedians	5	Old Elthamians	14
O. Cranbrookians	5	O. Berkhamstedians A	6
Old Queenians	0	Old Stortfordians	13

PUBLIC SCHOOLS RESULTS.

Eastbourne College	11	Old Eastbournians	3
Tiffin School	6	Old Tiffinians A	0
Eastbourne Coll. II.	11	Old Eastbournians II.	11
Tiffin School II.	0	Old Tiffinians B	6

RUGBY LEAGUE MATCHES.

Barrow	0	Salford	0
Batley	2	Leigh	6
Broughton Rangers	2	Halifax	8
Castleford	14	Hull K. Rovers	7
Huddersfield	13	Bradford N.	11
Hull	9	Wigan Highfield	0
Leeds	52	Bramley	5
Oldham	17	Widnes	5
Rochdale H.	2	St. Helens	9
St. Helens Rec.	12	Featherstone Rovers	3
Swinton	3	Hunslet	5
Wakefield T.	44	Keighley	5
Wigan	19	Warrington	14
York	24	Dewsbury	2

HARROW COCK HOUSE MATCH.

Moretons 6 pts., The Park 3.

For the third time in succession Moretons (Mr. A. P. Boissiers) won the Cock House match on the Sixth Form ground at Harrow School, beating The Park (Mr. R. Middleditch's house) by two tries to a try in a keen game. The Park pressed at the start, but their attack was repulsed, and B. D. Hawes dribbled the ball in clever style to touch down for Moretons after a few minutes' play. The Park again assumed the offensive, and H. E. Chubb, following a good movement, placed them on level terms. Soon after the interval The Park had an excellent chance of taking the lead when they were awarded a penalty, but the kick failed badly from a favourable position. Moretons then got the measure of their opponents, most of the play being in their favour. The Park defence, however, was sound. After the ball had been passed along Moretons' three-quarter line M. Tindall got an opening, and, running well, crossed far out. The kick failed. After the match O. C. Browning, Moretons' captain, who played a fine game at scrum half, was carried shoulder high up the hill to the House.

A POINTLESS DRAW.

Chartered Bank 0 pts., Park House 0.

Chartered Bank and Park House played a pointless draw at Northfields. A slippery ball made passing difficult, and play was confined mostly to the forwards. The first half was evenly contested, but the Chartered held a slight territorial advantage in the second. T. E. Murray, who played well throughout, was unfortunate in not scoring. S. T. Lawice played a fine game for Park House at full-back, and C. S. Hooker was prominent amongst the forwards.

HORSHAM STILL WINNING.

Horsham 13 pts., Old Azurians 6.

Horsham, who hold an unbeaten ground record at Worthing this season, beat Old Azurians by 13 points to 6. The Azurians scored an early penalty goal, but Whitworth sent Lintott over, who converted. Another penalty goal fell to Azurians, but Whitworth got an unconverted try before half-time. In the second half Horsham pressed hard, and fine movements by Osborne and Whitworth ended in ths latter scoring between the posts. Lintott converted.

LONDON UNIVERSITY LOSE.

Newton Abbot 11 pts., London Univ. 6.

London University were beaten at Newton Abbot. Despite the muddy state of the ground, the game proved bright and open, with the home side having most of the attack. Mordhan scored both tries for the University, and Newton's tries were got by eVale, Greenwood, and Morgan, Boyne converting one.

HOCKEY.

LIVELY INTER-CLUB GAMES.

MID-SURREY WIN.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Inter-club hockey held sway in the Metropolitan district yesterday, and several good games were seen. There was a little too much need for the "whistle" in the MID-SURREY v. WIMBLEDON game at Wimbledon Park, where the visitors won by five goals (H. D. A. G. Stack two, W. D. Waddilove, D. L. Utting, and O. L. Bateson) to one (Nigel Kirkpatrick), after gaining an interval lead of 3—0. There was a good deal of wild hitting, and four players at various times were temporarily "hors de combat."

DULWICH and SURBITON, on the former's ground, had a hard struggle, with no first-half goals, but Surbiton eventually won by two (Tyrrell two) to one (Fairchild). PURLEY, for whom Nelson, Lockett and Strong scored, shared six goals with the ROYAL ENGINEERS at Purley, Holbrook, Armitage, and Roberts going through for the Sappers, who were a goal down at the interval.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY OCCASIONALS, for their match against BECKENHAM at Beckenham, had the assistance of one of the famous post-war Cambridge University players—T. W. Mansergh, the International—and he scored two of the team's three goals, in reply to which Beckenham netted twice. Capt. M. H. Cork, the Irish player, and J. H. Pope scored for Beckenham, D. G. Oswald getting Oxford's third point. Each side scored once in the first half, and Oxford's excellent defence was responsible for the victory.

HAMPSTEAD, scoring through Wilkinson (two), Bird (two), and Kerr, beat BROMLEY by five goals to two, Nation hitting both points for the losers.

CIVIL SERVICE, at home, beat BARCLAYS BANK by three goals (Gates, Wade, and East) to nil, after scoring once in the first half, while SOUTHGATE, visiting TEDDINGTON at Bushey Park, scored twice before half-time, and won by 3—2. N. Parkinson and R. H. E. Sturt scored for Southgate before the interval, and R. W. Tydd-Chapman, an Irish International, netted twice for Teddington afterwards. Then, with the last hit of the match, J. H. Wonnacott registered the winning goal.

TULSE HILL proved far too good on their own ground for BRONDESBURY, who failed to reply to any of the twelve goals (Staples five, Pickering four, and Clayton three), after conceding nine in the first half; but in contrast the HON. ARTILLERY COMPANY and REIGATE PRIORY failed to score in their game at City Road.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

MEN'S MATCHES.

Mid-Surrey	5	Wimbledon	1
Southgate	3	Teddington	2
Hampstead	5	Bromley	2
Tulse Hill	12	Brondesbury	0
Hon. Artil. Co.	0	Reigate Priory	0
Blackheath	6	Barnes	3
Surbiton	2	Dulwich	1
Purley	3	Royal Engineers	3
Old Kingstonians	6	Staines	1
Polytechnic	4	St. Albans	1
Polytechnic II.	4	Wimbledon A	1
Polytechnic III.	7	S. Railway II.	1
Bromley III	3	Hampstead III.	1
Mid-Surrey III.	5	Wimbledon III.	1
N.P. Bank III.	4	Westminster B. III.	2
Dulwich III.	3	Surbiton III.	2
Civil Service	3	Barclays Bank	0
Durham	3	Yorkshire	3
Oxford Univ. Occas.	3	Beckenham	2
O. Framlinghamians.	3	Merton	1
Hornsey	3	Birkbeck College	2
Old Southendians	6	C. of London M.H.	2
Ilford	4	Royal Observatory	1
Luton	2	Enfield	1
Bank of England	2	Lloyds Bank	2
Woolwich Poly.	6	V.C.D.	1
Cheshunt	6	Latchmere	1
Metrogas	3	Centymca	1
Slough	5	G.W.R.	4
London Hospital	9	Britannic House	1
Guildford	3	Surbiton A.	0
Surbiton II.	2	Dulwich II.	1
Beckenham IV.	7	Dulwich IV.	0
Adult Schools Fed.	4	Croydon M.O. IV.	3
Spencer	4	Richmond and K.H.	1
Old Loughtonians	7	Brentwood	0
Cheam	2	Sevenoaks	1
Hawks	3	Purley II.	2
Beckenham III.	5	Hawks II.	1
Cheam III.	6	Wallington III.	2
Barnes III.	2	Blackheath III.	1
N.P. Bank III.	4	Westminster Bk. III.	2
Broxbourne	0	Barnet	0
Guildhall	3	Chelmsford	2
St. James's, Hatch'm	1	Goodmayes	0
Hawks	3	Purley II.	2
Guildhall II.	3	Chelmsford II.	2
Wimbledon II.	6	Mid-Surrey II.	2
Cheam II.	2	Sevenoaks II.	0
West Herts II.	4	H.A.C. II.	0
Purley A	7	Orpington	1
Elders and Fyffes	5	H.A.C. III.	0
Poly Ex B	6	Clesco	0
Virginians II.	12	Sevenoaks III.	0
Lloyds Bank III.	4	Bk. of England III.	3
Civil Service III.	8	Barclays Bank III.	0
Birkbeck Coll. III.	2	Ilford IV.	1
Barclays Bank IV.	2	Civil Service IV.	0
Wimbledon IV.	6	Mid-Surrey II.	2
Purley B	14	Erith Tech. Coll. II.	1
Teddington V.	6	Purley V.	2
Maidenhead	11	R.A.M.C.	1
Tulse Hill III.	11	Reigate Priory II.	0
Bk. of England III.	2	Lloyds Bank III.	3
Old Kingstonians A	0	Old Cranleighans	3
O. Cranleighans II.	2	Old Kingstonians II.	1
Chelmsford	3	Guildhall	2
Westminster Bk. II.	2	Nat. Prov. Bk. II.	6
Reigate Priory III.	9	Surbiton IV.	2
Southampton	3	Andover	0
Epsom	4	N.P.L.	2
Folkestone Optimists	10	Folkestone	0
Epsom II.	6	N.P.L. II.	1
Spencer II.	2	Richm'nd & K.H. II.	2
West Middlesex	7	R.A.F. (Stanmore)	1
Folkestone Optimists II.	5	Folkestone II.	1
Richm'nd & K.H. III.	6	Spencer III.	3
Richm'nd & K.H. IV.	4	Spencer IV.	1

WOMEN'S MATCHES.

S. Bank of S.A.	4	Guar. Co. of N.Y.	2
Lensbury	13	Stamford Hill	1
Catford Wanderers	7	Midland Bank	1
West Middlesex	4	Char. Bk. of India	3
Barclays Bank II.	4	C. Bk. of India II.	2
Kent	3	Bedfordshire	1
Hawks	7	Merrow	2
Surrey II.	4	Berkshire	1
Sussex	4	Middlesex	2
Pears	4	Rouge et Noire	3
Folkestone Optimists	9	Marden	1

RUGBY CLUB RECORDS.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.
Aberavon	16	7	4	5	105	79
Abertillery	15	8	4	3	94	60
Bank of England	14	8	0	6	145	113
Barnet	11	6	1	4	147	91
Bath	16	8	3	5	190	115
Bedford	14	11	0	3	162	73
Birkenhead Park	10	6	1	3	139	108
Blackheath	17	5	1	11	148	200
Bradford	16	9	3	4	203	138
Bristol	14	11	0	3	187	64
Barclays Bank	13	6	0	7	115	109
Cambridge Univ.	18	13	2	3	418	142
Cardiff	31	15	5	11	269	216
Catford Bridge	18	11	0	7	151	147
Centymca	11	4	0	7	66	73
Civil Service	13	4	2	7	69	191
Coventry	17	12	1	4	248	130
Cross Keys	18	8	4	6	113	69
Esher	14	7	2	5	105	110
Exiles	15	13	0	2	286	72
Gloucester	18	8	4	6	183	119
Guy's Hospital	16	7	2	7	188	164
Harlequins	13	10	0	3	222	105
Harrow	14	7	1	6	113	71
Headingley	15	8	1	6	289	137
H.A.C.	14	6	0	8	116	165
Ilford Wandrs.	13	5	1	7	67	102
K. Coll. Hosp.	15	5	0	10	135	214
K.C.S.O. Boys	13	10	0	3	206	101
Leicester	17	10	2	5	169	121
Lensbury	13	9	0	4	192	106
Llanelly	16	10	4	2	151	54
Lloyds Bank	13	7	2	4	93	77
L.C.C.	9	6	2	1	88	31
London Hosp	14	6	2	6	92	101
London Irish	13	10	0	3	134	45
London Scottish	13	6	1	6	125	190
London Welsh	14	11	1	2	176	52
Manchester	14	3	0	11	90	193
Midland Bank	14	6	2	6	169	78
Moseley	15	3	2	10	84	162
N.P. Bank	16	12	1	3	224	104
Neath	16	10	0	6	186	198
Newport	20	11	3	6	196	125
Northampton	16	8	0	8	172	152
Old Alleynians	14	8	1	5	186	131
Old Blues	16	6	1	9	120	174
Old Cranleighans	14	8	0	6	183	152
Old Dunstonians	12	2	1	9	34	153
Old Emanuel	13	5	2	6	92	132
Old Haberdashers	13	7	1	5	119	150
Old Haileyburians	10	6	1	3	116	89
Old Leysians	13	2	0	11	86	202
O.M. Taylors	13	6	1	6	134	132
Old Millhillians	13	7	0	6	134	95
Old Paulines	16	9	0	7	159	199
Old Westcliffians	11	7	1	3	147	46
Old Whitgiftians	12	9	0	3	144	83
Oxford University	17	10	3	4	207	165
Plymouth Albion	14	10	1	3	150	88
Pontypool	19	12	3	4	182	70
Richmond	15	5	2	8	149	179
Rosslyn Park	15	9	1	5	150	70
St Bart's Hosp.	15	3	0	12	111	240
St Thomas's Hosp	14	3	1	10	97	178
Saracens	12	8	0	4	161	67
Southend	13	10	1	2	196	74
Staines	11	10	0	1	264	31
Streatham	14	2	0	12	78	211
Swansea	17	8	1	8	166	132
Thanet Wandrs.	12	8	1	3	170	58
Toc. H.	13	13	0	0	269	36
Twickenham	15	1	0	14	60	270
U.S., Chatham	16	5	2	9	123	159
U.S., Portsmouth	15	2	3	10	104	214
Upper Clapton	14	3	2	9	161	161
Wasps	15	15	0	0	267	34
Westminster Bk.	14	4	2	8	93	144
Woodford	15	9	0	6	163	82

**

Association Football.

BAD DAY FOR THE LEADERS

BLACKBURN EXCEL—SUNDERLAND ROUT WEST HAM.

SPURS' PROMOTION FORM.

The Arsenal let slip a good chance to regain the League leadership yesterday; but, while Blackburn Rovers excelled to beat Sheffield Wednesday, the London club allowed Newcastle United to walk off with the points.

Fortunately for the two top clubs, their fate did not seriously affect their close fight for honours, as West Ham and Aston Villa, who were immediately below them, also had a bad day.

Newcastle, in winning at Highbury, repeated their last season's victory on this ground. It was the Arsenal's first home defeat, and they could not quarrel with the verdict. Steadier shooting would have brought Newcastle more goals.

Sunderland's recent return to good form was demonstrated against West Ham. The latter, prior to yesterday's journey, had yielded only 27 goals to opponents—the best "against" record in the First Division barring the Wednesday's.

Chelsea's point at Portsmouth further strengthens the belief that a West London revival is on the way, whilst Portsmouth lapses in the last two or three weeks are apparently not easy to remedy.

Derby County struck a severe blow at Huddersfield; and Leicester, after a deplorable spell, returned to winning vein at the expense of Bolton.

There seems little hope for Manchester United, and they could ill afford the complete surrender which they made yesterday to Leeds, who have been lingering with them in the circle of distress.

Everton, after a severe struggle, only just got the better of Southampton to retain their command of the Second Division, but in this section chief interest, perhaps, centred on the good deeds of some of the bottom clubs.

Plymouth Argyle did well to beat the dangerous Wolverhampton team. Cardiff heavily defeated Burnley, and even Reading got an away point—at Bury.

Notts County must have viewed Northampton's 4—2 loss at Fulham with satisfaction, particularly as they themselves disposed of Luton.

FIRST DIVISION.

The marksmanship of Blackburn Rovers was too much for Sheffield Wednesday. The visitors fought hard, living up to their championship title for long spells of the game, but the home forwards appeared as if they could do nothing wrong. They made the most of their chances, shot hard and often, and were rewarded with five goals. The Wednesday could score but two—and one of these put through by Jones, the home left-back. Jack Bruton and Puddefoot each scored twice for the Rovers.

Swinging the ball about from wing to wing was the main reason why Newcastle shook up the Arsenal. Both Boyd and Wilkinson, the wingers, played well, and, with Davidson holding Lambert, the Arsenal machinery did not work as usual. Bedford scored first for Newcastle, but Jack equalised two minutes after the restart.

Then came the battle royal. Hutchinson headed a goal to put the visitors ahead, and Starling ought to have had a third. Lambert missed a "sitter" at the other end, and, although Jack went centre-forward, the Arsenal could not pull the game out of the fire. James had a great first half, but Williams was poor and Parker could not hold Wilkinson.

Langford, Manchester City's goalkeeper, and Maggs, Aston Villa's goalkeeper, both added to their laurels in a hard game at Manchester. The City were the better side, and deserved their victory.

It was Portsmouth's own fault that they failed to beat Chelsea at Fratton Park. They had chances enough to win the match, but their marksmanship was poor. Weddle, Jack Smith, and Cook, all wasted splendid opportunities, and Mackie missed a penalty. Chelsea also failed with a penalty, Law's kick being splendidly saved by Gilfillan. The visitors were fortunate to share the points.

Leonard, the former Cowdenbeath inside-left, scored three of Sunderland's six against West Ham at Sunderland. Though his partner, Connor, scored only once, the outside left was one of the most effective members of a forward line in which all played well. West Ham, who had Ruffell off the field injured for most of the second half, were overwhelmed.

Dunne scored three of Sheffield United's four goals against Middlesbrough at Bramall Lane. The visiting forwards were clever, but lacked the shooting power of Sheffield United's attack.

Derby County's forwards were too lively for Huddersfield Town. The visiting attack played some clever midfield football, but their skill deserted them near goal.

Leicester City, who had lost five consecutive matches, came back to form, and beat Bolton Wanderers at Leicester. Chandler scored both goals for the City.

Neither Birmingham nor Liverpool played good football at St. Andrews. Two goals by Briggs enabled Birmingham to win—but their play did not deserve two League points.

There was more kick-and-rush than scientific football at Leeds, where the home club beat the luckless Manchester United. Turnbull scored three of Leeds United's five goals.

Hampson, Blackpool's centre-forward, who had not scored for his club since October, recovered some of the deadly marksmanship that won him his place in England's team. He obtained two of the three goals that beat Grimsby at Blackpool.

SECOND DIVISION.

Southampton's rearguard put up a splendid resistance at Goodison Park, but the persistency of Everton's forwards reaped the reward of two goals, which were sufficient to win the match.

Neither West Bromwich Albion nor Stoke City played stylish football at the Hawthorns. The Albion, however, put more dash into their work than their visitors, and won by four clear goals—two of them being scored by Glidden.

Good goalkeeping by Spiers, sound full-back play by Lyons and Hodgkinson, a fine exposition of the centre-half's art by Messer, and a goal by Bellamy won Tottenham Hotspur their match at Barnsley.

The goalkeeping of Moss saved Oldham Athletic a point at Bradford. The City were the superior team—in fact, the game was one-sided—but Moss stood between them and their reward.

If their shooting had been attended with a little more luck the City would have conquered Preston North End at Bristol. Mercer and Vials both hit the Preston cross-bar with shots that had Hampton beaten. Preston were fortunate to have a point to show for this match.

A goal by Grozier—his second of the match—in the last ten minutes enabled Plymouth Argyle to conquer Wolverhampton Wanderers at Plymouth. The Wolves, who had won five consecutive matches, fought hard to avoid defeat, but the Argyle gave a sound display of clever football.

A sound defence enabled Nottingham Forest to draw with Charlton Athletic at The Valley.

Reading deserved the first point they have earned away from home this season. They were quite as good as Bury. The referee ordered Featherby, the Reading inside-left, off the field in the closing stages of the game, but he was re-called on the appeal of the Bury captain.

Swansea Town were the better of two poor teams at Swansea, where Bradford gave a very disappointing exhibition. Clough's goalkeeping saved the visitors from a heavier defeat.

Although Millwall twice took the lead at Hanley, Port Vale succeeded by the odd goal in five. Yuill gave a great display in the Millwall goal.

Burnley had an unhappy day at Cardiff. Bowsher, their centre-forward, was injured in the first half, and changed places with Page, their outside left. Page was not very comfortable in the middle of the field; he missed two chances before he had been there long. An injury to Beel, the inside-right, further handicapped Burnley's attacking force in the second half. Cardiff City's four goals—Robbins scored two of them—all happened after the interval.

THIRD DIVISION.

Hurst, Walsall's new centre-forward from Manchester United, shot against a post when he had an open goal—and Brighton escaped with a goalless draw. Goddard had four of the Rangers' seven goals against Exeter City.

In the first half-minute Bowen headed a goal for Northampton, but Hammond got two fine goals and Watkins another for Fulham before Bowen replied. Without Inglis (injured) Northampton were handicapped in the second half, and Watkins made the game safe for Fulham.

Luton were unlucky to lose to Notts County by the only goal. With reasonable Luton shooting the southern leaders would have been defeated.

RESULTS AND LEAGUE POSITIONS.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION I.

Arsenal	1	Newcastle Utd.	2
Birmingham	2	Liverpool	0
Blackburn R.	5	Sheffield Wed.	2
Blackpool	3	Grimsby Tn.	1
Derby Co.	4	Huddersfield Tn.	1
Leeds Utd.	5	Manchester Utd.	0
Leicester City	2	Bolton Wanderers	1
Manchester City	3	Aston Villa	1
Portsmouth	1	Chelsea	1
Sheffield Utd.	4	Middlesbrough	2
Sunderland	6	West Ham Utd.	1

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Sheffield Wed.	20	12	5	3	58	31	29
Arsenal	19	12	5	2	54	29	29
Derby County	20	10	6	4	51	34	26
Portsmouth	20	9	7	4	47	35	25
Aston Villa	20	10	5	5	55	44	25
West Ham Utd.	20	10	5	5	47	39	25
Huddersfield Town	20	7	7	6	50	39	21
Chelsea	20	8	4	8	35	35	20
Manchester City	20	8	4	8	33	34	20
Middlesbrough	20	8	4	8	41	44	20
Leicester City	20	9	2	9	43	51	20
Blackburn Rovers	20	8	3	9	47	43	19
Liverpool	19	8	3	8	45	44	19
Sheffield Utd.	20	6	7	7	38	39	19
Birmingham	20	6	7	7	33	37	19
Sunderland	20	6	6	8	45	52	18
Newcastle Utd.	20	7	3	10	41	49	17
Grimsby Town	19	7	1	11	33	33	15
Bolton Wanderers	19	6	3	10	27	38	15
Blackpool	20	5	5	10	35	63	15
Leeds United	20	6	2	12	44	46	14
Manchester United	20	2	2	16	25	68	6

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (Southern).

Bournemouth & B.A.	0	Crystal Pal.	0
Clapton Orient	3	Bristol Rovers	1
Coventry City	6	Torquay Utd.	1
Fulham	4	Northampton	2
Norwich City	4	Gillingham	0
Notts County	1	Luton Town	0
Q. Park Rgrs.	7	Exeter City	2
Swindon Town	3	Brentford	2
Thames	3	Newport Co.	1
Walsall	0	Brighton and H.A.	0
Watford	1	Southend Utd.	3

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Notts County	20	13	6	1	53	22	32
Northampton	19	11	5	3	33	15	27
Southend United	20	12	2	6	44	29	26
Crystal Palace	19	10	5	4	56	34	25
Brighton and H. A.	19	8	7	4	25	22	23
Brentford	20	9	4	7	43	35	22
Swindon Town	20	10	2	8	41	38	22
Fulham	19	9	4	6	34	35	22
Torquay United	20	9	2	9	44	50	20
Coventry City	18	8	3	7	42	31	19
Bournemouth A.	20	7	5	8	33	39	19
Queen's Park R.	19	8	2	9	46	36	18
Clapton Orient	18	7	4	7	33	31	18
Bristol Rovers	20	7	4	9	35	47	18
Gillingham	19	5	7	7	32	30	17
Exeter City	19	6	5	8	34	43	17
Watford	19	7	2	10	35	38	16
Luton Town	19	5	5	9	24	33	15
Walsall	18	4	4	10	34	47	12
Norwich City	19	4	4	11	23	37	12
Thames	19	5	2	12	21	48	12
Newport County	19	4	2	13	36	61	10

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.—DIV. I.

Aberdeen	3	Partick Thistle	1
Clyde	2	Dundee	2
East Fife	1	Motherwell	1
Falkirk	2	Leith Athletic	3
Hamilton Acads.	3	Hearts	2
Hibernians	2	St. Mirren	3
Kilmarnock	0	Celtic	3
G. Morton	1	Ayr United	1
Queen's Park	0	Airdrieonians	0
G. Rangers	7	Cowdenbeath	0

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Rangers	19	14	3	2	55	16	31
Celtic	18	13	4	1	56	20	30
Hamilton Acads.	21	12	3	6	39	22	27
Partick Thistle	19	12	2	5	45	24	26
Motherwell	19	10	6	3	47	29	26
Dundee	19	11	3	5	43	28	25
Hearts	20	11	2	7	50	35	24
Cowdenbeath	20	10	3	7	32	32	23
Aberdeen	21	10	1	10	42	36	21
St Mirren	19	8	4	7	28	27	20
Morton	19	8	3	8	38	45	19
Airdrieonians	20	8	3	9	31	43	19
Kilmarnock	20	8	2	10	32	35	18
Queen's Park	19	6	4	9	34	37	16
Clyde	20	5	4	11	33	44	14
Falkirk	20	6	2	12	40	55	14
Leith Athletic	20	4	5	11	23	48	13
Hibernians	20	5	2	13	31	50	12
Ayr Utd.	19	1	7	11	23	49	9
East Fife	20	1	3	16	24	71	5

MIDLAND LEAGUE.

Boston	4	Mexboro' Ath.	3
Bradford Res.	6	Notts Co. Res.	1
Chesterfield Res.	1	Gainsborough T.	5
Denaby Utd.	4	Scarborough	2
Frickley Col.	1	Bradford C. Res.	5
Loughboro' Cor.	2	Grimsby Tn. Res.	6
Mansfield Tn.	4	Doncaster R. Res.	1
Newark Tn.	3	Lincoln C. Res.	1
Rotherham Res.	3	Barnsley Res.	5
Shirebrook	3	Notts F. Res.	4
Wombwell	0	Grantham	2

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION II.

Barnsley	0	Tottenham H.	1
Bradford City	0	Oldham Athletic	0
Bristol City	1	Preston N.E.	1
Bury	2	Reading	2
Cardiff City	4	Burnley	0
Charlton Ath.	1	Notts Forest	1
Everton	2	Southampton	1
Plymouth Argyle	3	Wolverhampton W.	2
Port Vale	3	Millwall	2
Swansea Town	2	Bradford	1
W. Brom. Albion	4	Stoke City	0

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Everton	20	14	3	3	59	31	31
West Brom. Alb.	20	12	3	5	44	24	27
Tottenham Hots.	20	12	2	6	52	25	26
Preston N. End	20	11	4	5	53	31	26
Wolver. Wand.	20	13	0	7	50	31	26
Burnley	20	10	5	5	47	41	25
Port Vale	20	11	2	7	40	32	24
Bury	20	10	2	8	43	39	22
Stoke City	20	9	4	7	30	34	22
Bradford	20	9	3	8	50	38	21
Southampton	20	8	5	7	30	24	21
Oldham Ath.	20	8	3	9	31	37	19
Swansea Town	20	7	5	8	29	37	19
Bradford City	20	6	4	10	28	38	16
Charlton Ath.	20	6	4	10	30	42	16
Bristol City	20	6	4	10	24	44	16
Notts Forest	20	4	7	9	39	47	15
Plymouth Argyle	20	6	3	11	28	39	15
Barnsley	19	5	5	9	19	33	15
Millwall	20	6	2	12	39	49	14
Cardiff City	21	5	4	12	33	48	14
Reading	20	4	2	14	24	58	10

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (Northern).

Darlington	2	Tranmere Rovers	0
Doncaster Rovers	0	Barrow	0
Gateshead	3	Chesterfield	3
Halifax Tn.	1	Carlisle Utd.	5
Hartlepools Utd.	4	Rochdale	0
Hull City	5	Southport	1
Lincoln City	5	Accrington Stan.	2
Nelson	2	Wrexham	0
New Brighton	5	York City	3
Stockport Co.	5	Rotherham Utd.	2
Wigan Boro.	6	Crewe Alex.	0

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Lincoln City	19	13	3	3	46	22	29
Chesterfield	19	11	4	4	45	28	26
Stockport Co.	19	12	2	5	43	28	26
Tranmere Rvrs.	19	12	2	5	54	38	26
Wrexham	19	10	4	5	47	29	24
Hull City	19	10	4	5	42	30	24
Carlisle United	18	11	1	6	46	26	23
Wigan Boro'	18	11	1	6	39	32	23
Southport	18	8	2	8	31	33	18
Gateshead	18	6	6	6	28	30	18
Darlington	19	7	3	9	37	30	17
Rotherham Utd.	19	6	5	8	40	42	17
Accrington Stan.	20	7	3	10	38	60	17
Doncaster Rvrs.	18	6	4	8	34	27	16
Halifax Town	18	6	4	8	25	36	16
York City	18	7	1	10	35	41	15
Rochdale	18	6	2	10	38	50	14
Barrow	20	5	4	11	24	44	14
Hartlepools Utd.	18	6	1	11	35	40	13
New Brighton	19	5	3	11	23	41	13
Crewe Alex.	19	6	0	13	28	52	12
Nelson	18	3	3	12	22	41	9

CENTRAL LEAGUE.

Aston Villa Res.	6	Leeds Utd. Res.	2
Bolton W Res.	2	Bury Res.	1
Burnley Res.	5	Everton Res.	0
Huddersfield Res.	7	Blackpool Res.	1
Liverpool Res	1	Manchester C. Res.	2
Manchester U. Res.	2	Derby Co. Res.	2
Oldham Ath. Res.	2	Sheffield U. Res.	0
Preston N.E. Res.	1	Blackburn R. Res.	2
Sheffield W. Res.	5	Stockport Co. Res.	1
Stoke C. Res.	2	Birmingham Res.	1
Wolves Res.	3	W. Brom. A. Res.	1

LONDON COMBINATION.

DIVISION I.

Tottenham H. Res.	3	Arsenal Res.	0
Brentford Res.	5	Leicester C. Res.	3
Bgtn. and H. A Res.	2	Cardiff C. Res.	1
Luton Tn. Res.	4	Charlton A. Res.	1
Chelsea Res.	5	Coventry C. Res.	1
West Ham Res.	4	Clapton O. Res.	0
Crystal Pal. Res.	3	Swansea Tn Res.	0
Millwall Res.	0	Fulham Res.	0
Southampton Res.	8	Portsmouth Res.	4
Reading Res.	5	Q.P. Rangers Res.	2
Southend Res.	2	Watford Res.	1

DIVISION II.

Aldershot	3	Bath City	1
Guildford City	4	Bournmth. & B. Res.	2
Northampton Res.	2	Dartford	3
Folkestone	2	Norwich City Res.	1
Lovell's Ath.	2	Swindon Tn. Res.	2

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

EASTERN SECTION.

Peterboro and Fl. U.	3	Sheppey Utd.	8

WESTERN SECTION.

Plymouth Res.	4	Merthyr Res.	2
Exeter C. Res.	7	Taunton	1
Newport Co. Res.	1	Llanelly	5
Torquay Utd. Res.	5	Barry Tn.	1

Amateur Football.

CLAPTON SURVIVE.

WIMBLEDON HUMBLE NUNHEAD.

The Isthmian League leaders, WIMBLEDON, visited NUNHEAD, the champions, and won by three goals to one. Nunhead started well, and Cox scored in the first minute, but Wimbledon gradually wore them down. Okin equalised sixteen minutes later, and Dowden added two goals in the second half. ST. ALBANS CITY led by 2—1 at the interval at LEYTONSTONE, but the home club rallied to such good purpose in the second half that the visitors were beaten by 5—2. Birch (2), Bishop, Harris, and Cailes scored for Leytonstone; Gray and Minter for St. Albans.

Without Dellow and Peploe in their forward line, ILFORD shot very badly against the LONDON CALEDONIANS at Kingston. Noble, Conridge, Davie (2) scored for the Caledonians; Salmon for Ilford. OXFORD CITY'S forwards were very weak against DULWICH HAMLET at Oxford. A goal by Sherman won Dulwich the game.

KINGSTONIAN gave a very disappointing exhibition against TUFNELL PARK, who beat them by 3—1 at Kingston. Lutterlock and McGowan scored for the winners, Hannam for Kingstonian. WYCOMBE WANDERERS found WOKING easy victims at Wycombe. Woking made the mistake of keeping the ball too close—a policy that did not pay against the quick tackling and quick thinking of their opponents. Brown (2) and Vernon (2) scored for the Wanderers; Mason for Woking.

CLAPTON proved too good for H.M.S. EXCELLENT in the replayed F.A. Amateur Cup-tie at Whale Island, Portsmouth. Both sets of forwards played well on the heavy turf, but Clapton were the more effective in front of goal. Deathness scored for H.M.S. Excellent early in the game, but Whittaker and Rowe obtained goals for Clapton before the interval, and there was no further scoring. Giving a much-improved display BISHOP AUCKLAND passed into the Second Round at the expense of EVENWOOD TOWN.

The OLD WYKEHAMISTS—holders of the Arthur Dunn Cup for the last two seasons—and the OLD CHOLMELIANS, who had such a stubborn struggle last spring in the semi-final stage, were drawn together in the first round. Another close game had been anticipated at the Crystal Palace, but the Wykehamists, thanks to superior half-back play, were victorious by four goals to none. G. S. Grimston (2) and C. T. Ashton gave the holders a three-nought advantage before the interval, and P. G. T. Kingsley added another in the second half.

F.A. AMATEUR CUP.

FIRST ROUND.

Trowbridge	2	Gorleston	0
Maidenhead United	6	Ryde Sports	1

FIRST ROUND REPLAYS.

Willington	6	Whitby Albion Rgr.	1
H.M.S. Excellent	1	Clapton	2
Bishop Auckland	5	Evenwood Town	1

ARTHUR DUNN CUP.

FIRST ROUND.

Old Wykehamists	4	Old Cholmeleians	0
Old Bradfieldians	3	Old Reptonians	2
Old Westminsters	5	Old Etonians	0
Old Malvernians	4	Old Wellingburians	1
Lancing Old Boys	2	Old Hurstjohnians	1
Old Citizens	5	Old Carthusians	4

A.F.A. SENIOR CUP.

Broomfield	2	Crouch E. Vampires	2

ATHENIAN LEAGUE.

Enfield	0	Redhill	0
Southall	2	Wealdstone	0
Barking Town	5	Walthamstow Av.	1
Bromley	1	Barnet	2
Sutton Utd.	4	Leyton	0

RESERVE SECTION.

Walthamstow Av.	1	Enfield	3
Redhill	6	Bromley	0
Barnet	1	Hayes	2
Hampstead	2	Uxbridge Town	4
Leyton	7	Sutton Utd.	2
Wealdstone	11	Southall	1

CIVIL SERVICE LEAGUE.

DIVISION I.

Agricola	2	Board of Trade	1
Ministry of Health	2	Taxes	0
Office of Works	2	Board of Education	2

DIVISION II.

Colonial Office	3	Dollis Hill	0
Customs and Excise	5	War Office	1
Ministry of Hlth. B	6	Royal Mint	1

HERTS CHARITY CUP.

Cheshunt	3	Hertford Town	8

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE.

Nunhead	1	Wimbledon	3
Leytonstone	5	St. Albans City	2
Lon. Caledonians	4	Ilford	1
Kingstonians	1	Tufnell Park	3
Wycombe Wandrs.	4	Woking	1
Oxford City	0	Dulwich Hamlet	1

KENT LEAGUE.

Sittingbourne	10	Sittingbourne P.M.	0
Dartford	5	R.N. Depot	0
Maidstone	6	Tilbury	2
Grays Thurrock	1	Bexleyheath	1
Margate	2	Ashford	0
Tunbridge Wells	6	Dover United	1
Canterbury Waverley	2	Northfleet	0
Gillingham	2	Chatham	1

LONDON SENIOR CUP.

Hayes	2	Lyons Club	3

(REPLAYED TIE.)

Haywards (Enfield)	5	Mitcham Wanderers	0

LONDON LEAGUE.

PREMIER DIVISION.

Tooting Town	1	Chelmsford	6
Grays Athletic	8	Erith and Belvedere	0
Romford	4	Walthamstow Grange	1

SECOND DIVISION.

Beckenham	2	Woolwich Poly.	1
Chelmsford	1	Brentwood Ment. H.	4
Erith and Belvedere	1	Finchley	2
U.G.B.M. Sports	2	Leavesden Ment. H.	1
Mitcham Wanderers	1	Park Royal	9

MIDDLESEX CHARITY CUP.

Uxbridge Town	3	Staines Town	3

NEMEAN LEAGUE.

Catford Wands.	3	Ealing Association	0
Old Actonians	2	Old Johnians	4

OLD BOYS LEAGUE.

Old Guildfordians	2	Old Colfeians	2
Old Grammarians	1	Old Stationers	4
Old Brockleians	0	Old Roan	2
Old Tiffinians	2	Old Tollingtonians	0

PUBLIC SCHOOLS RESULTS.

St. Edmund's School, Canterbury	1	Old Boys	10

SOUTHERN COUNTIES AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.

Somerset	2	Cornwall	5

SURREY SENIOR LEAGUE.

West Norwood	3	R.A.F. (Kenley)	1
Godalming	4	Guildford	7
Wallington	3	Beddington Corner	3
Hersham	3	Leyland Motors	1

SURREY SENIOR CUP.

Egham	2	Epsom Town	2

(Abandoned during extra time.)

SPARTAN LEAGUE.

PREMIER DIVISION.

Brentwood & Warley	2	Met. Police	1
Chesham Un.	4	Aylesbury Un.	3
Hounslow	0	Crittall Ath.	0
Great Eastern	1	Wood Green Tn.	0

DIVISION I.

Eastbourne Comds.	2	Windsor and Eton	2
Hitchin Town	0	Waterlow's (Dnstbl.)	3
Leagrave and Dist.	4	Cowley	2

DIVISION II.—EASTERN SECTION.

Hertford Tn. Res.	4	Hitchin Town Res.	3
The Rovers	2	Callenders Ath.	2
Ware	1	Waltham Comrades	2
Apsley	2	Bishop's Stortford	0

DIVISION II.—WESTERN SECTION.

Aylesbury Un. Res.	3	Chesham Un. Res.	3
G.W.R.	0	Willesden Poly.	1
Hazell's (Aylesbury)	9	R.A.F. (Uxbridge)	0
Farnham United	5	Hounslow Res.	4

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE.

Carshalton	2	Aquarius	3
Bank of England	0	Old Lyonians	2
Winchmore Hill	1	Norsemen	3
Eastbourne	1	Hastings & S. Lnds.	3
Toc H Res.	2	Cuaco Res.	3
Merton	1	Cambridge Town	1
Ipswich Town	4	Westminster Bank	3
Westminster Bk. R.	10	Alexandra Pk. Res.	0
Highgate Res.	0	Winchmore Hill Res.	0
Lloyds Bank	3	Kew Assoc.	2
Kew Assoc. Res.	6	Lensbury Res.	3
Civil Service	1	Britannic House	0
Ealing Assoc.	5	Old Parkonians	3
Barclays Bank Res.	1	Ealing Assoc. Res.	1
Alleyn Old Boys	4	Catford Wanderers	4
Catford Wanderers R.	6	Britannic House Res.	0
N.P. Bank	1	Highgate	2
N.P. Bank Res.	4	Hasting & St. Lnds. Res.	1
Lensbury	2	Alexandra Park	2
Crouch E. Vamp. Res	0	Reigate Priory Res.	7

CLUB MATCHES.

Corinthians	7	Royal Navy	2
Finchley	2	Hampstead	5
B.B.C.	3	Francis Day & Hntr.	2
Carshalton A	9	Britannic House A	1
Old Collegians	5	Old Rutlishians	2
Old Parkonians Res.	5	Southgate Wanderers	2
Old Chigwellians	5	Old Bancroftians	3
Exiles Res.	3	Polytechnic Strollers	4

YESTERDAY'S ATTENDANCES.

The following are the attendance figures for the chief games in the four divisions of the League:—

Arsenal v. Newcastle United	40,000
Manchester City v. Aston Villa	30,000
Plymouth Argyle v. Wolverhampton	24,000
Sheffield United v. Middlesbrough	22,000
Portsmouth v. Chelsea	20,000
Sunderland v. West Ham United	20,000
Birmingham v. Liverpool	18,000
Blackburn Rovers v. Sheffield Wednesday	18,000
Bradford City v. Oldham Athletic	15,000
Charlton Athletic v. Notts Forest	15,000
West Bromwich Albion v. Stoke	15,000
Fulham v. Northampton	12,000
Notts County v. Luton	10,000
Clapton Orient v. Bristol Rovers	8,000
Coventry City v. Torquay United	7,000
Hull City v. Southport	6,000
Gateshead v. Chesterfield	6,000

CORINTHIANS WIN AGAIN.

WEAKENED TEAM TOO GOOD FOR NAVY.

FORWARDS' FINE FORM.

Corinthians 7, Royal Navy 2.

Though they were below strength the Corinthians, on a heavy ground at the Crystal Palace, outplayed the Royal Navy in the first half.

The Service side, for whom Woodford was unable to play, made some excellent runs, but after thirteen minutes' play Brogden opened the scoring for the Corinthians. Eleven minutes later he added a second point, while the third goal also fell to Brogden after good work by Hegan. The Navy later made some dangerous raids into the Corinthian lines, and Coates scored. A few minutes before the interval Brogden, who was in brilliant form, shot the fourth goal for the Corinthians.

The light had improved on the resumption. The Navy had a fair share of the exchanges for a while, but shot poorly, as did Yemm at the other end. After sixteen minutes Brogden obtained his fifth goal, Doggart breaking his sequence with the Corinthians' sixth. The Corinthians then added a seventh, and Coates replied for the Navy.

The Senior Service usually experience a reverse when they appear at the Crystal Palace against the Corinthians, but the severity of their defeat on the present occasion came as a surprise, although Woodford's absence from inside-left was undoubtedly felt—the more so as his partner, Chapman, proved a weak spot in the side. They opened quite well—possibly some of their players were affected by a late arrival and hurried change—and had at various periods a good share of the exchanges; but having once got within shooting range their forwards failed badly to drive the advantage home. Due credit must, at the same time, be given to Howard Baker, several of whose saves were exceedingly good, notably a couple in the bad light nearing the close.

Instead of taking the position as leader H. Brogden, who represented Oxford last December, exchanged places with Doggart. He had a great day, as the first five goals all fell to his credit, the latter supplementing with the last couple. He applied plenty of force to several of his shots, and worked well with Hegan, who, after finding Glenister troublesome at the start, again gave a really excellent exhibition, his able work prefacing more than one score. It was difficult in the variable fog to follow the niceties of the game, but the home left-wing was unquestionably the stronger, and whereas Yemm got in a few good dribbles and centres he lost several good openings through a misdirected shot.

Whewell was not quite so prominent in the picture as against Brighton, but the Corinth half-back line as a whole did well, Bryant using his head cleverly. Abbott, opposed to the stronger Navy wing, was at times hard pressed and inclined to "rocket" the ball, and Cook's form, as his partner, proved somewhat uncertain.

Glenister had a busy afternoon, yet came well out of the ordeal, but the Corinthian forwards as a whole displayed far more "life" in their movements than the Service players, and indulged in speedy work, despite the heavy going. Marine Renouf in no way reduced his reputation as a custodian, and time after time was deservedly applauded for smart work. Teams:—

CORINTHIANS.—B. Howard Baker; J. A. Cook, G. H. Abbott; B. E. Bryant, W. T. Whewell, F. H. Ewer; E. W. Yemm, H. N. Barber, A. G. Doggart, H. Brogden, K. E. Hegan.

ROYAL NAVY.—Marine D. Renouf (R.M., Eastney), Corpl. D. Brown, (R.M., Eastney), Sergt. F. Lyon (St Vincent), Pay-Lt.-Commdr. C. E. Glenister, R.N. (Erebus), E. R. A. J. Beats (Victor), Marine Woods (R.M. Chatham); Corpl H. W. Mills (R.M. Eastney), Rigger H. L. Coates (H. M. Yacht), A. B. Stevens (Victory), A. B. T. Burn (Victory), L.S.B. A. C. Chapman (Victory).

GOLF.

ADMIRALTY BEAT R.A.C.

Winning the Singles by four matches to three, with one game halved and halving the Foursomes at two matches each, Admiralty G.S. beat Royal Automobile Club, over the latter's course at Epsom, by 6½ points to 5½. Results (R.A.C. first):—

SINGLES.—Lt.-Col. C. W. Myddleton lost to N. G. Holt, 2 and 1; G. J. Wright halved with Inst.-Comm. A. F. Akhurst; A. W. C. Hamshire lost to H. S. Pengelly, 4 and 3; W. M. Macaw lost to Capt. J. C. Tovey, 5 and 4; E. Horace Holme, 2 and 1, beat Eng. Rear-Admiral J. Hope Harrison; W. H. Hartley, 3 and 2, beat Rear-Admiral T. N. James; Capt. Spencer Ovington, 2 and 1, beat Maj. S. C. N. Bishop; E. Gibbons lost to H. B. Bain, 2 and 1.

FOURSOMES.—Myddleton and Wright lost to Holt and Akhurst, 5 and 3; Hamshire and Macaw, 1 up, beat Pengelly and Tovey; Holme and Hartley, 2 and 1, beat Harrison and James; Ovington and Gibbons lost to Bishop and Bain, 4 and 2.

CLUB COMPETITIONS.

BECKENHAM.—M.M.—Sen.: W. L. Perkins, 82—5=77, and H. G. Fyfe, 83—6=77. Jun.: E. E. Brooker, 92—16=76.

BEXHILL.—M.M.—Scr.: Major J. F. O'Malley, 84. Sen.: Brig.-Genl. H. J. M. Marshall, 85—10=75. Jun.: Alan Simpkin, 88—13=75, and S. G. Kent, 90—15=75, tied.

BRAMLEY.—M.B.—Sen.: N. Dean, 1 down. Jun.: E. Stewart-Brown, 3 down.

CAMBERLEY HEATH.—M.M.: H. Smurthwaite, 83—9=74; R. C. Wingfield, 87—10=77; Maj. Swaine, 80—3=77; Capt. Russell, 84—7=77.

CANTERBURY.—M.B.—Div. I.: P. T. S. Brook, 78—3=75. Div. II.: Col. McCormick, 96—13=83; and Dr. Williams, 105—22=83, tied.

COODEN BEACH.—M.M.: Lt. H. N. Sheffield, 76—2=74; H. E. E. Thomas, 83—6=77.

COOMBE HILL.—Paget C.C.: H. W. D. Gallway, 77—4=73. Weekly Competition (Medal): H. J. Carver, 80—5=75.

CULVERDEN (TUNBRIDGE WELLS).—M.B.: J. C. F. Davis (9), 3 down. T. T. Cotter (9), 4 down.

DENHAM.—M.B.: C. R. Chronander (scr.), 2 up.

EALING.—M.B.—First Div.: L. S. Dawe (5) and Harry Butler (6) tied at 4 down. Second Div.: W. Goodwin (15), 1 down.

EAST BERKS.—M.M.: L. A. Thorpe, 85—10=75.

ENFIELD.—M.B.: H. Morris (6) and V. Saunders (14) tied at 4 down.

FERNDOWN.—M.B.: H. T. Greenwood (5), 4 up.

FLACKWELL HEATH.—M.B.—Senior: R. A. James (9), 3 down. Junior: F. A. Smith (18), 5 down.

GOODWOOD.—M.M.: A. A. Smith, 87—9=78.

HADLEY WOOD.—M.B.—Sen.: H. E. Taylor (12), 1 down. Jun.: S. J. Bell (16), 2 down.

HAYLING.—M.M.—Sen.: Capt. White, 83—6=77. Jun.: Commdr. Du Boulay, 87—14=73.

HENDON.—Q.B.—Senior: R. Willan (8), all square. Junior: F. W. Bristow (15), all square. September Bogey re-play: W. A. Sanderson (3), 3 down.

HINDHEAD.—M.M.: A. S. Anderson, 74+1=75; R. N. M. Murray, 79—3=76; E. Davenport, 85—9=76.

MANNINGS HEATH.—Captain's P.: F. Fraser-Haddock (8), 2 down.

PURLEY DOWNS.—M.M. (Sen.): H. Knill-Jones (6), all square. Jun.: A. Docking (13), all square.

REIGATE HEATH.—B.C.: D. B. Rae (10), 1 up.

ROYAL ASHDOWN FOREST.—Ebor C.C. (Final): Capt. R. H. S. Wynne (14) beat E. R. Campbell (plus 1) at the 37th hole.

ROYAL EPPING FOREST.—Mr. C. French's Prize: F. C. Ford, 84—16=68.

ROYAL MID-SURREY.—F.C.—Bogey: K. C. Drayson (5), 1 up. Junior: G. W. Bowers-Bartlett (7), 1 down.

STANMORE.—Charrington-Smith Bowl.—Final: A. J. L. Circuitt beat beat C. K. Black. Par Comp.: S. C. Jolly, 5 up.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S (RAMSGATE).—M.B.: M. C. C. Daniel (8), 3 down.

SIDCUP.—M.B. (Div. I.)—W. S. Taylor (8) and N. D. Bond (9) tied at all square. Div. II.: J. S. S. Brame (13) and H. E. Needham (19) tied at 3 down.

VERULAM.—M.M.—Sen.: H. B. Bell, 77—1=76. Jun.: C. Dunham, 93—16=77.

WEST ESSEX.—Captain's B.: R. H. Taylor, all square.

WEST HILL.—M.B.: F. G. Mirfield (scr.) and W. H. Bermingham (scr.) tied at 2 up.

WEST MIDDLESEX.—M.M. (Sen.): A. W. Hall, 79—8=71. Jun.: H. C. Weatherly, 89—13=76.

WEST SURREY.—M.B.: N. W. Pilcher (6) and D. L. Cox (10) tied at 1 up.

WILLINGDON.—B.C.—First Div.: R. G. A. Waterfield (8), all square. Sec. Div.: A. H. D. Ring (13), all square.

WORTHING.—M.B.—Div. I.: F. C. Stretton (11), all square. Div. II.: Gen. H. F. Brooke (24), 2 up.

LACROSSE.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

DIVISION I.

Catford	3	Buckhurst Hill	2

DIVISION III.

Buckhurst Hill II.	8	Catford II.	3

CLUB GAMES.

Lee	13	Purley	2
Surbiton	6	Hampstead	3
Willoughby	9	Wallington	7
Old Dunstonians	9	Purley II.	3

WESTERN CENTRE.

Brislington	15	Clifton North	3
Clifton South	14	Old Fairfieldians	5
Wills	11	Kings Weston	3

WOMEN'S INTER-COUNTY MATCH.

Kent	5	Surrey	5

FIVES.

The Old Blues (A. H. Buck, S. Bloomfield, A. E. Alexander, C. E. Franklin) beat Sir Walter St. John's School (F. R. Eggleton, L. Tucker, J. G. Knowles, M. W. Melton) at Rugby Fives at Battersea by 117 points to 47.

RACKETS.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS O.B.'s COMPETITION.

RUGBY'S GREAT WIN.

By HUBERT WINTERBOTHAM.

J. C. F. Simpson and D. S. Milford, representing Rugby, beat Lord Aberdare and R. H. Hill (Winchester) in the final of the Public Schools Old Boys Rackets Competition yesterday at Queen's Club by four games to three (17—18, 15—12, 15—10, 8—15, 15—2, 17—16), after one of the best matches ever seen in this famous court.

Each player had his vicissitudes, and this particularly applies to Hill, who was very shaky at the start, but in the last dramatic seventh game, all four played like heroes, with possibly Hill the most brilliant of the quartet.

The fact that Lord Aberdare was playing in the backhand court and Hill in the forehand, aroused comment at the start, for Lord Aberdare is never so devastating as he is in the forehand, when he can get comfortably into the middle of the court, and Hill is always happier in the left-hand court, in which he can use his excellent backhand. They won the first game with this formation, but were never really comfortable, and lost the next two. They then changed positions, and the effect was at once seen. They were a homogenous pair, and the general opinion was that if they had played through like this they would have won.

As it was, they lost by the narrowest possible margin. They led 2—0 in the set of three in the fifth game. A tremendous rally followed, and Simpson just scraped a ball above the board. Lord Aberdare appealed to the referee, who ruled that the ball was up. This seemed so to most of the spectators, but, in the opinion of that very experienced marker, Charles Read, it was not up. If his view was correct, then Lord Aberdare and Hill had won the match.

Lord Aberdare served magnificently until the strain began to tell, and Simpson towards the end was able to come up and volley a service which is probably the severest in modern rackets. Milford, as always, was brilliantly unorthodox. He outrages all the conventions of ordinary rackets, but is a very efficient law unto himself. Simpson has a wonderful eye, and he can still hit the ball on the forehand—he is, of course, left-handed—harder than any living player.

Apart from the Public Schools, there is, unfortunately, not a great deal of rackets played nowadays. The match we saw yesterday was a sheer joy, and will be spoken of in rackets circles for many days to come.

Exceptional Play.

Hill started the match with a run of three, which Simpson promptly countered with a five, all by service, and a six by Milford, three by service, gave Rugby the good lead of 11—3. Splendid service by Lord Aberdare enabled Winchester to equalise at thirteen all, and in the set of five Winchester just got home to win by 18—17, Lord Aberdare playing gloriously to make a run of five, after Rugby had led 4—0.

A run of five each to Simpson and Milford in the second game put the Rugbeians in a strong position, but a four to each of their opponents improved matters from the Winchester point of view, and, later, a three, by Lord Aberdare, put them ahead at 11—10. Rugby reached "game—ball—10." Hill made two, and Lord Aberdare was put out, without scoring, by a splendid return by Milford. Simpson then served the necessary point for the game.

Rugby led 7—0 in the third game, but Winchester, for whom Lord Aberdare was playing splendidly, drew level at nine all. They could score only one more point, however, before Simpson went out with a 2.

Lord Aberdare and Hill then changed courts with immediate results. They were for quite a long time the definitely better pair, Hill especially improving out of all knowledge. They won the fourth game decisively at 15—8, and the fifth still more easily, Hill running out from 9—2.

The deciding factor in the sixth game was a great run of seven by Milford, which enabled his side to lead by 9—1. Lord Aberdare scored one by service, but Simpson, serving well and backed up by great work by Milford in the rallies, went out with a fine run of six.

Winchester led 7—6 in the final game, but another brilliant effort by Milford, which produced seven, placed them in the good position of 13—7. Hill played magnificently just then, and after Rugby had led 14—12, he made it fourteen all with a 2. Then occurred the doubtful decision, and Lord Aberdare going in, failed. Simpson then finished a glorious match by running out with a three.

ROWING.

LONDON UNIVERSITY HEAD OF THE RIVER TRIAL.

Ten crews took part in yesterday's University of London "Head of the River" Trial, which was rowed over the University Boat-race course from Putney to Mortlake in conjunction with Polytechnic Schools under somewhat depressing weather conditions. The placings and times were:—1, Polytechnic Schools (best boat), 22 min. 18 sec.; 2, University College (best boat), 22 min. 19 sec.; 3, King's College (best boat), 23 min. 11 sec.; 4, East London (clinker boat) 23 min. 13 sec.; 5, London School of Economics (best boat), 23 min. 14 sec.; 6, University College II. (clinker boat), 23 min. 26 sec.; 7, King's College II. (clinker boat), 24 min. 21 sec.; 8, Polytechnic Schools II. (clinker boat), 24 min. 58 sec.; 9, King's College III. (clinker boat), 25 min. 1 sec.; 10, Polytechnic Schools III. (clinker boat), 26 min. 3 sec. It was a keenly contested race rowed under slow water conditions.

NORTH LONDON A.R.A. FOURS.

Eight heats in the North London A.R.A. Winter Fours were rowed yesterday in two divisions, and resulted as follow:—

SENIOR DIVISION.—Heat 1: Gladstone, 1; Excel, 2; won easily. Heat 2: Leytonstone, 1; Borough of Hackney, 2; won by half a length. Heat 3: Clapton Zephyr rowed over, Clapton Warwick absent.

JUNIOR DIVISION.—Heat 1: Clapton Warwick, 1; Excel, 2; won by two lengths. Heat 2: Clapton Zephyr rowed over, Tiger scratched. Heat 3: Britannia, 1; Walthamstow Borough, 2; won by a length and a-half. Heat 4: Gladstone rowed over, Borough of Hackney absent. Heat 5: Leytonstone rowed over, Southgate Road scratched.

BANK'S CUP RACE.

The annual eights race of the National Provincial Bank for the Ely Challenge Cup was rowed from Barnes Bridge to Hammersmith Bridge yesterday. The winning crew comprised S. Tasker (bow), A. R. Hunt, S. R. Cox, R. W. Grinyer, S. C. Carth, R. V. Abbott, O. St. J. Hamlin, F. R. Roberts (stroke), and T. Biffin (cox), who beat E. Levien's crew by 4 lengths, with A. Bishop's crew third. The winning crew had 6 lengths' allowance, and the second two lengths, the third starting from scratch.

CUP RACE AT HAMMERSMITH.

The annual eight-oared race for the Bert Biffin Memorial Cup was rowed at Hammersmith between the Water Rats and Hammersmith Town over a mile course. The Town won by half-a-length after a keen struggle from start to finish.

VESTA SCULLING RACE.

The annual sculling match of the Vesta Club for the Briggs Cup, open to members who have not win a race on sliding seats, took place at Putney yesterday. The final heat resulted:—J. D. Wilcox, 1; S. Western, 2; A. Grimes, 3. A fair race over a 1,000 yards course was won by barely two lengths.

BARNES R.C. FOURS.

The holiday fours for prizes of Christmas cheer rowed off at Barnes brought out six crews. The final resulted as follows:—A. McGinty (bow), G. Start, S. Peters, H. A. Barry (stroke), and W. Sime (cox), 1; Lu Barry's crew, H. Newman (cox), 2; T. Harding's crew, Tom Green (cox), 3; George Watford's crew, J. T. Stratford (cox), 4. Won by a length and a-half.

THAMES A.R.A. WINTER FOURS.

The results in the Winter League Fours (Junior Section) rowed off at Barnes were as follows:—Heat 1.—Chiswick Generals, 1; Barnes and District, 2. Heat 2.—Metropolitan Police, 1; Caxton, 2. Heat 3.—City Police, 1; Ace, 2. Heat 4.—Furnivall, 1; Weiner, 2. Heat 5.—Manx, 1; Metropolitan Railway, 2. Heat 6.—L.G.O.C., 1; "Times," 2. Heat 7.—Lyons, 1; Napier, 2.

EMPIRE BILLIARDS.

A TRIPLE DEAD-HEAT.

The final aggregates in the Empire Billiards Tournament were:—Newman 165,882; Davis 159,266; Lindrum 158,493; McConachy 124,949.

Lindrum, Davis, and Newman tie for first place, each having won four games and lost two. McConachy failed to record a victory. Lindrum, Newman, and Davis, play off for the Gold Cup in the New Year. The fresh draw will be made to-morrow, and the first name out of the hat receives a bye. The other two players will contest a fortnight's match, played under time conditions, and the winner meets the "bye" player for the Gold Cup. The Silver Gilt Cup, for the highest aggregate scored during the tournament, was won by Newman with the gross aggregate of 165,882.

RESULTS.

NEWMAN (rec. 7,000)	26,859
DAVIS (rec. 7,000)	26,402
LINDRUM	27,907
McCONACHY (rec. 7,000)	21,437

A record entry is expected for the annual open junior tournament at the Covered Courts Club, Dulwich, on December 29-January 3. Entries close on December 26.

INTER-VARSITY SPORT.

RESULTS OF THIS YEAR'S CONTESTS.

CAMBRIDGE LEAD.

By H. M. ABRAHAMS.

With the exception of the ice hockey match and the ski-ing competitions, all the 1930 Oxford v. Cambridge contests have now been concluded. They total twenty-nine (excluding the two mentioned above), and the results have been as follows:—

OXFORD (7).—Chess, cross-country, fencing, golf, lacrosse, rackets, shooting.

CAMBRIDGE (19).—Athletics, Badminton, billiards, boat race, boxing, epée, fives (Eton), fives (Rugby), jiu-jitsu, lawn tennis, miniature rifle, motor-cycling, polo, relays, signalling, squash rackets, swimming, tennis, water polo.

DRAWN 3).—Association football, hockey, Rugby.

One of the first things that strikes the student of inter-Varsity matches* is that three of the major contests—Association football, hockey and Rugby football—were all drawn. In Rugby football there has not been a draw since 1908, and, indeed, of the ten draws since 1871, only three have been in this century. Cambridge continued their run of successes in the sports and in the relays, but Oxford won the cross-country for the first time since 1926.

Looking through the list of contests, which in the case of cricket and the boat race extend over a hundred years, we find that in total victories Oxford lead in Association football, billiards, lacrosse, rackets, and two recently instituted events—squash rackets and winter sports. I have not been able at the moment to ferret out the full ice hockey results, but it will transpire, I think, that Oxford have a lead here, too.

NEW EVENTS.

By far the greatest number of events were started in the last century, for since the war some eight or nine competitions have been inaugurated, the majority of which a good many people might classify as "minor." In 1920 the relays were started; in 1922, winter sports; squash rackets, Eton fives, and miniature rifle shooting in 1925; badminton and Rugby fives in 1928; and jiu-jitsu this year.

An air race was held once in 1921; cycling was regularly staged from 1874 to 1900, when it ceased to function; one or two gymnastic competitions were held spasmodically at one time, and motor-cycling and table tennis now find a place in the ever-increasing list. The ladies, too, now engage upon warlike encounters; but, inasmuch as the more staid (or possibly antiquated) authorities at Cambridge do not recognise women as "members of the University," I must defer comment on these competitions until some distant future date.

I append some notes about the more important contests:—

ATHLETICS.

First held 1864. *Cambridge*, 31 *wins; Oxford*, 25; 6 *drawn.*

Cambridge won this year for the fifth time in succession, and it is interesting to note that in the last five years they have won forty events to Oxford's fifteen. Up to 1925, in total events, the two Universities had kept remarkably close to one another, and were indeed level then with totals of 268 each. Now Cambridge lead by 308 events to 283.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

First held 1874. *Oxford*, 23 *wins; Cambridge*, 22; *drawn*, 8.

With the ever-increasing popularity of Rugby, more and more of the old "Soccer" schools are abandoning this game, and while it is rash to generalise, the standard of Association football at the Varsities must of necessity suffer.

BOAT RACE.

First held 1829. *Cambridge*, 41 *wins; Oxford*, 40; *dead-heat*, 1.

This year's race was of exceptional interest, for after the "Jubilee" event in 1929 the two Varsities were level in total wins. Cambridge have only lost the race once since the war, in 1923, and by winning this year are ahead in contests for the first time since 1862—the nine successive Oxford victories from 1861-1869 and again from 1890-1898 having kept the Dark Blues ahead.

CRICKET.

First held 1827. *Cambridge*, 44 *wins; Oxford*, 36; *drawn*, 12.

Ninety-two contests in all have been held, and since 1838 (apart from the war) there has not been a break. This year's match provided one of the most extraordinary finishes for many a long day—what looked like a certain draw terminating in a victory for Cambridge by 205 runs.

CROSS COUNTRY.

First held 1880. *Cambridge*, 26 *wins; Oxford*, 20.

The drawn contests in Association and Rugby football made one wonder if the "hat-trick" would be accomplished by a draw in cross country—which is a mathematical possibility with incalculable odds against such a thing happening. Cambridge had first two men home, but Oxford won. Only once before, in 1913, has the Varsity which finished first two men home failed to win.

GOLF.

First held 1878. *Oxford*, 23 *wins; Cambridge*, 21; 3 *halved.*

Oxford's win by 12 matches to 3 was the largest since 1921, when they won by a similar score.

HOCKEY.

First held 1890. *Cambridge*, 18 *wins; Oxford*, 14; 4 *drawn.*

In 1925, after thirty contests, each Varsity had secured an equal number of victories—fourteen. This year's draw was the first for thirty-five years.

RACKETS.

First held 1855. *Oxford*, 28 *wins; Cambridge*, 24; 17 *drawn.*

As the match consists of one doubles and one singles event, somewhat naturally a large number of draws have been recorded. This is the third oldest Inter-varsity event.

RELAYS.

First held 1920. *Cambridge*, 8 *wins; Oxford*, 3.

Now one of the most popular of inter-varsity contests. No Blues are as yet awarded.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

First held 1871. *Oxford*, 24 *wins; Cambridge*, 21; *drawn*, 10.

This year's match was the first draw for twenty-two years. Cambridge led at half-time by a try to nothing, Oxford scoring a penalty goal in the second half.

SWIMMING.

First held 1892. *Cambridge*, 25 *wins; Oxford*, 6; *drawn*, 4.

This contest is now decided on points, Cambridge winning by 19 points to 16 points.

TENNIS.

First held 1859. *Cambridge*, 38 *wins; Oxford*, 13; *drawn*, 15.

Oxford have only won the singles contest once in the last eleven years (V. A. Cazalet in 1920). Since 1922 there have been two single-handed matches as well as the four-handed.

SQUASH RACKETS.

INTER-SERVICES TOURNAMENT.

The Royal Air Force beat the Royal Navy by four matches to one in the Inter-Services squash rackets tournament at the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, yesterday, and so finished second to the Army. Results:—Wing-Commdr. F. L. Robinson beat Commdr. P. F. Glover 9—5, 6—9, 10—9, 5—9, 9—5; Pilot-Officer G. R. A. Elsmie beat Lieut. M. H. Bliss 9—2, 3—9, 9—6, 9—3; Pilot-Officer J. W. C. More beat Lieut.-Commdr. D. C. Hill 9—6, 9—5, 5—9, 9—4; Flying Officer E. C. Hudleston beat Capt. P. Macnamara 9—4, 9—7, 9—4; Pilot-Officer P. B. Coote lost to Lieut.-Commdr. H. F. H. Layman 6—9, 2—9, 9—6, 5—9.

The final totals were:—Army, 10; R.A.F., 4; Royal Navy, 1.

FENCING.

FEATURES OF THE SEASON.

NEW ERA IN BRITISH SWORDPLAY.

By M. POLLOCK SMITH.

The first chapter of a brilliant fencing season has closed; five title events and at least 150 inter-club matches have been decided, several records have been broken, and two new names appear on the honours list. Innovatiins are too numerous to name, and many questions have been raised, some of which the next six months' fencing will answer.

For women, November was the gala month, the greatest of all feminine contests held in this country—the Hutton International—being decided the first week, the new Mountbatten Cup followed immediately, and the Inter-Salle team competition concluded the pre-Christmas women's titles.

The Hutton International drew its record entry of 43, among whom were the pick of British foilists and six foreigners, including the world's Olympic champion, Fräulein Helene Mayer. The latter's fight with Miss Gwen Neligan, our premier Italian foilist, was the finest and most spectacular women's duel ever staged in London, and, incidentally, brought to this country the old controversy over the respective merits of the French and the Italian schools of fence.

A BATTLE OF STYLES.

No French exponent was of the slightest consequence to the magnificent German, which raised the query: "Is the Italian method the more modern and effective?" The mere asking of this question, based on recent results, drew the anticipated answer from some exponents of the old French school, who are regarded as the most conservative of people. Italian play for women, however, is still in its infancy, and though obviously it is a lusty babe, no one conversant with post-war fencing could be so foolish as to say at present that one method is obviously better than another. The next five years will probably decide this, the most vital and interesting question ever associated with British swordplay. Because of this question 1930 will mark a new era.

The Lady Louis Mountbatten Challenge Cup smashed all records by drawing an entry of 68, introduced a new batch of judges and referees, was the first women's title contest to be decided at a public exhibition, and produced a new star in Mrs. Minton, of Tassart-Parkins.

ENGLAND'S SUPREMACY.

The Inter-Salle Cup was won for the third successive year by the Salle Bertrand, against terrific odds; the Anglo-Scottish three-weapon supremacy remained with England after a long hard fight, and J. B. Armstrong won the Inns of Court Jenkinson Cup.

The men's Junior Foil Championship, the Doyne Cup, again finished so late that results were not published, which was unlucky for Lensbury Club, who produced an unbeaten winner in their captain, C. T. Wellington. This event used to be regarded as an Oxford v Cambridge affair, but this is the second successive year that Lensbury have taken the spoils, and there is no doubt that their great enthusiasm will, before very long, carry them to the top.

Bertrands appear as invincible as ever where three-weapon matches are concerned, while the Sabre Club (Sabre only) and Grosvenor, who are Epée specialists, enjoy a similarly formidable reputation. Last season, when Grosvenor met Bertrands in the annual duelling match, the former won the first meeting, and Bertrands maintained a slight superiority by winning the return on a wider margin, both clubs otherwise being undefeated. This season they "drew" the initial match, so the return on January 31 should decide a two-year-old rivalry.

Women's matches are still on the increase, and the coming Championship will be the first to be run entirely by the L.A.F.U. The next title event is the Desprez Cup, starting on January 15, which, one of the most popular of the season's fixtures, is a replica of the championship without the official atmosphere.

From January 27 to February 6 young sabreurs will cut and thrust for the second annual junior sabre title; the women's British championship will be held from February 25-March 6; the men's foil championship is fixed for March 11-20; the British sabre championship, April 9-17; the junior épée title from April 29-May 9; the Public Schools foil and sabre championships during the Easter vacation; the Savage Shield on May 29 and 30; the Miller-Hallett épée international, the Magrini Cup, and the European three-weapon championships in Vienna all in May; the British épée championship from June 15-27; the Services and inter-Services' four-weapon championships during June; and finally—apart from Continental events—the second Anglo-Portuguese épée match in London in July.

ATHLETICS.

ORION BEAT S.L.H.

Orion Harriers, over their own country at Chingford, gained a surprising victory by a margin of 55 points in their annual "all-to-score" match with South London Harriers. For some years the S.L.H. men had proved to be superior to their Essex rivals, and were confident of securing another victory on Saturday, but the home runners, after the Southern Counties champions had secured eight of the first eleven places, packed well to score 2,411 points against 2,456 points. The Orion Harriers' 7½ miles course was in a very heavy condition, but the leaders accomplished fast times, and there was seen a good race among four South Londoners, with G. E. Ross (Orion) putting in a strong finish to secure third position. The individual winner was L. F. Humphris, the new Insurance A.A. champion, who covered the distance in 45 min. 39 sec. and beat L. H. Weatherill, the Inter-Banks A.A. champion, by 2 sec. J. G. Stubbs (S.L.H.) was fourth, and so failed to retain his club's seven miles championship, which was decided in conjunction with the match, and was won by Humphris. Humphris thus secures the "Brooker" Cup, and has every reason to be pleased with his record over the first half of the cross-country season. The first twelve men home in the race were:—

L. F. Humphris (South London H.), 45 min. 39 sec., 1; L. H. Weatherill (S.L.H.), 45.41, 2; G. E. Ross (Orion), 45.44, 3; J. G. Stubbs (S.L.H.), 45.48, 4; A. W. V. Tebbutt (S.L.H.), 45.48, 5; C. E. Poole (S.L.H.), 46.5, 6; R. C. Norton (Orion), 46.10, 7; L. R. Strong (Orion), 46.11, 8; H. S. Byrne (S.L.H.), 46.12, 9; J. C. Robbins (S.L.H.), 46.37, 10; L. A. Pool (S.L.H.), 46.58, 11; R. G. Ries (Orion), 47.9, 12.

Orion Harriers had 76 runners, and South London Harriers 52.

BLACKHEATH BEAT RANELAGH.

STANSBURY RETAINS "WYNNE" CUP.

Blackheath Harriers visited Ranelagh Harriers at Putney Heath and defeated the home club by a large margin of points in the annual "all-to-score" match for the Pelling-Ratcliffe Cup. The first three men home were Ranelagh Harriers, of whom A. C. Stansbury, covering the course of about seven miles in 38 min. 47 sec. retained his club's "Wynne" Challenge Cup, but the next nine positions were occupied by Blackheath men, and the visiting club, scoring 2,819 points against 4,270 points, won easily. There were 131 runners, of whom Blackheath supplied 69, and the number of scorers for each side was fixed at 59. The first twelve home were:—

A. C. Stansbury (Ranelagh H.), 38 min. 47 sec., 1; A. J. Norris (Ranelagh), 40.30, 2; L. W. Mellish (Ranelagh), 40.30, 3; R. F. Cross (Blackheath), 40.38, 4; C. C. Noaks (Blackheath), 40.45, 5; R. A. Galley (Blackheath), 40.45, 6; A. G. V. Allen (Blackheath), 41.21, 7; W. E. Dimes (Blackheath), 41.22, 8; G. C. Jarvis (Blackheath), 41.23, 9; L. E. Hammill (Blackheath), C. L. Mobbs (Blackheath) and R. D. Bell (Blackheath), 41.32, equal, 10.

The Ranelagh Harriers' handicap resulted: J. Tipper (7.30), handicap time 37.20, 1; A. R. Mills (3.50), 38.9, 2; A. Adamson (8), 38.26, 3; E. D. Harper (3.10), 38.27, 4; A. J. Norris (1.50), 38.40, 5; A. C. Stansbury (scr.), 38.47, 6.

RIFLE SHOOTING.

Rounds in several small-bore contests in various parts of London and the country were concluded yesterday. In the third round of the Ladies' League the highest scorers were the Exmouth Ladies, who defeated Clifton Ladies, 577-564. Admiralty Ladies defeated Weybridge Ladies, 566-555, the City of London Ladies defeated Byfleet and Oatland Ladies, 566-533, and Dumfries Ladies defeated Edinburgh Women's League, 545-533. In the London Clearing Banks Rifle League, Barclays Bank, with 585, defeated Provincial Bank A by 3 points; Midland Bank A, with 578, defeated Bank of England A by 5 points, and Westminster Bank A defeated Coutts Bank by one point. In the Printers' League, Bradbank A defeated Amalgamated Press 594-576; House of Dickinson A defeated Linotype A, 587-571; House of Dickinson B defeated W. H. Smith and Son A, 584-572; and Waterlow A beat R.O.S.B., 582-573. In the Burroughes and Watts Competition, Atlas and Norfolk, Exmouth A, and L.M.S. Bristol each scored 791 points, and beat their respective opponents.

RACING NOTES.

A GLANCE AT THE HOLIDAY FARE.

YOUNG HURDLERS OF PROMISE.

BURGEE AND THE "LINCOLN."

By "FAIRWAY."

As it will not possess any special feature beyond the expectation that Mr. J. H. Whitney's Easter Hero will make his reappearance at the Dunstall Park gathering on Boxing Day, the sport staged for the holidays is very ordinary compared with what will follow in a week or two. A New Year is generally responsible for renewed interest in most things, and it is particularly noticeable in the Turf world. But what sport we have enjoyed so far this winter season has not been entirely without interest and instruction. It is, for instance, quite possible that Burgee, who figured in a moderate class of handicap at Hurst Park last week, will not only develop into a champion hurdler, but also be a popular fancy for the Lincolnshire Handicap. We can, of course, take it for granted that he has but to justify all that was said for him last winter to be nearly the best of the hurdlers this time, and success of this kind would automatically make him a general choice for the Carholme event at the end of March. So far there has not been a three-year-old hurdler introduced of any special note, and we are entitled to think that Lord Rosebery's Annaly, who won from King Cobra on Friday, is a good deal below what it was thought he would turn out to be when first schooled. There is, of course, plenty of time for him to make headway and live up to the reputation he gained on the home gallops, but much more likely is it that there will be many to equal him brought out in the New Year.

What is, perhaps, the most fascinating part of the winter sport as far as it applies to young hurdlers is that class appears to count for little. Annaly is engaged at Kempton Park on Boxing Day in a race he should be good enough to win, and on the following day we are promised the first appearance of his stable companion, Midlothian, as a hurdler. The latter, like Annaly, is said to have taken very kindly to the game, according to what he has shown on the gallops, and if he can jump at all, he should be one of the star performers in the New Year in so far as the recruits are concerned. What, of course, may stand in his way and relegate him to the background is his lack of courage, for there is little doubt that, with more heart for racing, he would have well established himself on the flat.

ANOTHER DISAPPOINTMENT.

Also engaged in the race that concerns Midlothian is En Garde, another disappointment of the last two seasons under the other rules, and from what has been seen of this colt, he has the making of a top class hurdler. There is little doubt it is the progress of the recruits that assists to keep the sport bright at this stage, and it is unfortunate there are usually so few good ones in the pack. Again at Kempton Park on Boxing Day is the Oatlands Handicap Steeplechase, in which two particularly smart six-year-olds, Ballasport and Drin, will figure. There may be half-a-dozen older 'chasers saddled, but the race has the appearance of being a duel between the two mentioned. Both are at a tender age as far as 'chasers are concerned. Yet they have well established themselves as fine leppers, and, what is perhaps as important, stayers.

Interest in the Lincolnshire Handicap will begin to quicken soon, because of the number of hurdlers that are engaged. Lord Glanely's Burgee is only one of several that will be seen out shortly, in addition to Go Easy. But their chances must naturally depend upon the weather in the closing stages of February and the early part of March. Anything like favourable conditions are certain to produce many fit and fancied candidates, whose prospects, if reasonably weighted, are favourable according to their best form of last season on the flat. Already there is talk of Cat o' Nine Tails and The Masher being soundly backed, and with each it is possible to make out a good case. The Masher is a particularly promising rising four-year-old, and I judge him to be a first-rate miler, capable of jumping off and lasting the eight furlongs on the Carholme without a breather, as it were, which, by the way, is the way the race is generally run. He makes more appeal to me than the other, because Cat o' Nine Tails showed in the Cambridgeshire that, at top speed in first-class handicap company, he does not stay much beyond seven furlongs. But there are other even more interesting candidates than this pair, who can be said to be every bit as good when judged on their best performance. It is automatic to think of Leonidas II. in connection with the race, because of his victory last March. He established himself as a spring colt, even if he failed to train on later.

The New Year is, as I have said, crowded with features of interest, for, apart from the developments in connection with the "Lincoln," almost every day will expose a Grand National fancy making progress. I append a few fancies for the holiday programmes:—

KEMPTON PARK.—Friday.

Kew (S.) Hurdle.—TETRAGEM.

Oatlands Handicap Steeplechase.—BALLASPORT.

Fry Hurdle.—ANNALY.

Hampton Handicap Steeplechase.—TONY LAD.

KEMPTON PARK.—Saturday.

Mortlake (S.) Handicap Hurdle.—QUARREL.

Gamecock Handicap Steeplechase.—GLANGESIA.

Twickenham Hurdle.—MIDLOTHIAN.

DUNSTALL PARK.—Friday.

Christmas Cup.—SLATER.

Ruckley Handicap Hurdle.—TUCK BOX.

Penkridge Steeplechase.—EASTER HERO.

DUNSTALL PARK.—Saturday.

Open Three-Year-Old Hurdle.—LESTEFORD.

Wolverhampton Handicap Hurdle.—FAIR PAULINE.

Oteley Handicap Steeplechase.—WISE DON.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD.

S. AUSTRALIA FARE BADLY AGAINST N.S. WALES.

ADELAIDE, Saturday.

South Australia are in a hopeless position in their match with New South Wales. They require 193 to avoid an innings defeat, and have two wickets to fall.

In reply to 610 by New South Wales, South Australia scored 166, Hunt, medium-pace bowler, taking five for 36 and Chilvers five for 68.

Nitschke, who scored 69 in the first innings, again played well when South Australia followed on, but eight wickets were down for 246 at the close of play, Hunt having taken four for 80 and Bradman three for 45. Nitschke batted doggedly for 3½ hours and hit six 4's.—Reuter's Special Service.

MELBOURNE, Saturday.

Victoria, holders of the Sheffield Shield, beat Queensland by an innings and 242 runs. Score:

VICTORIA.—First Innings, 474 (Ryder 114, Rigg 124, A'Beckett 92, Oxenham 6 for 92).

QUEENSLAND.—First Innings 103 (Ironmonger 5 for 20, Blackie 3 for 37). Second Innings: 129 (Bensted 40 Ironmonger 6 for 41, Blackie 4 for 57).—Reuter's Special Service.

WEST INDIES OPPOSE TASMANIA.

LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA, Saturday.

The West Indies touring team began a three-day match against Tasmania here to-day. Tasmania, batting first, scored 188, Burrows being top scorer with 46. Nash made 41 and Martin 31. Hill, with four for 57, was the most successful bowler, Constantine's two wickets costing 35 runs. Griffiths took one for 45, and Scott two for 45. When stumps were drawn the West Indies had lost four wickets for 88 runs, Birkett claiming 31 of these.—Ex. Tel. Co.

Yesterday's Racing.

DOVEDALE'S SMART WIN.

DISAPPOINTING ATTEMPT BY THE TYKE.

WALTER RALEIGH FAILS.

FROM OUR RACING CORRESPONDENT.

HURST PARK, Saturday.

Two or three useful chasers of the past contested the race for the Lonsdale Handicap Steeplechase, but without showing the slightest sign of their best form. Lordi was among the group, and on the strength of recent good form was backed, but he, like Gate Book, Great Span, and Monduco, did moderately against Alike, who showed the same dash as at Lingfield Park last week-end.

Mr. C. Harmsworth's gelding, The Tyke, proved a great disappointment in the Thames Handicap Hurdle, and in no way reproduced the smart form he showed last Saturday against Residue. Apparently he is a gelding of moods, for some way from the judge he began to lose ground, in spite of every effort on his rider's part to keep him in close touch with the leader. The winner was Dovedale, who provided a somewhat surprising result, and whose success contributed to long odds being paid out over the Tote's daily double, which, in connection with Alike, the winner of the Three-Mile Steeplechase rewarded three lucky ticket holders to the extent of £340 10s.

Dovedale came through in the straight to take the lead from Ponorogo and Muezzin. The latter hung on gamely, but failed to find finishing speed. However, on to-day's performance it should not be long before Muezzin wins a small race for Mr. Taylor. Earlier in the afternoon J. Scott saddled Walter Raleigh, a Phalaris colt who proved a failure on the flat, in the Surbiton (S.) Hurdle. Walter Raleigh did no better here, suddenly dropping back well beaten after leading the field a good gallop for seven furlongs. This race Solfeggio won fairly comfortably from Lord Puttenden and Peeper.

Frank Hartigan ran Captain L. Montagu's three-year-old Nick of Time, winner of the Esher Cup, in the Strawberry Hill Hurdle against Nestorian. The Weyhill colt came through with a winning chance close home, but failed on the flat to hold off Mrs. Wallace's gelding. Details:—

1.0.—WEY (S.) H'CAP STEEPLECHASE (£150) (2m. 310yds.).

Wood Owl (Mr. Bates), br g by Blink—Yellow Iris, 7yrs, 11st-12 .... (Feakes) 1
Shadow (Mr. Groom), ch g by Lally—Terra d'Ombra, 8yrs, 12st-7 .... (Speck) 2
Redshank (Mr. Hutchinson), br g by Redwood—Ayah, 11yrs, 11st-11 ...(Prendergast) 3

Also ran: Ashlight, Skipper's Own, Gryphon. (Winner trained by Thrale.)

"Sporting Chronicle."—9 to 4 agst Shadow, 100 to 30 WOOD OWL, 7 to 2 Ashlight, 4 to 1 Redshank, 100 to 8 Skipper's Own. 20 to 1 Gryphon. 2l., bad.

Tote (2s. stake).—Win, 6s. 9d.; places, 3s. 6d., 3s. 3d.; win pool, 5,936; place pool, 2,433.

1.30.—SURBITON (S.) HURDLE (£150) (3-Y.O.) (1½m.).

Solfeggio (Mr. Boutall), b g by Soldennis—F. Sharp, 10st-7 .... (Mr. Thackray) 1
Lord Puttenden (Mrs. Roberts), gr c by Puttenden—Clondaloe, 11st ...... (Williams) 2
Peeper (Mr. S. Wootton), ch g by Stedfast—Peep, 11st .... (Magee) 3

Also ran: Vivacious, Frisky Duke, Sea Hussar, Lady Gay, Splendide Mendax, Spanish Admiral, Roseleaf, Tetravile, Walter Raleigh, Scientist, Christopher, Pine Needle, Lenox, Velocity, Tetragem, Gunga Din, Gogo, Rock Image, Back Number, Brigend, Blitzen, Guilcagh, Bibiani. (Winner trained by Todd.)

"Sporting Chronicle."—5 to 4 agst Peeper. 11 to 2 SOLFEGGIO, 6 to 1 Tetragem, 10 to 1 Christopher, Velocity, Gogo, Roseleaf, 100 to 8 Spanish Admiral, 100 to 6 Vivacious, 20 to 1 Lord Puttenden, 33 to 1 others. 3l. 1½l.

Tote.—Win, 11s. 9d.; places, 3s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 3s.; win pool, 10,228; place pool, 7,547.

2.0.—THAMES H'CAP HURDLE (£200) (2m.).

Dovedale (Mrs. Rihil), br h by Torelore—Sea of Stars, 6yrs, 10st-13 ......(Butchers) 1
Muezzin (Mr. Taylor), b g by Golden Myth—Vesper Bell, 4yrs, 10st-8 .... (Edgeley) 2
Clydesdale (Mr. Collins), b g by Golden Myth—Erycina, 4yrs, 11st-7 .... (Payne) 3

Also ran: The Torch, Mount Hawke, The Tyke, Sawston, Finance, Littlewanted, Puissant, Pebble Ridge, Ponorogo. (Winner trained by Butchers.)

"Sporting Chronicle."—5 to 2 agst The Tyke, 100 to 30 Muezzin, 4 to 1 Clydesdale, 11 to 2 Ponorogo, 10 to 1 The Torch, Pebble Ridge, 100 to 8 Littlewanted, 100 to 6 DOVEDALE and others. 1½l., head.

Tote.—Win, 152s. 3d.; places, 17s., 3s. 9d., 3s. 6d.; win pool, 9,566; place pool, 7,599.

2.30.—LONSDALE H'CAP STEEPLECHASE (£300) (3m. 180yds.).

Alike (Mr. Mellon), br m by Southannan—The Very Same, 7yrs, 10st-7 .... (Moloney) 1
Young Prince (Mr. Maiden), gr g by Prince Philip—Juvenile, 6 yrs. 10st-7 ... (Hardy) 2
Lordi (Mr. Jones), br g by Lormi—Santa Vesta, 9yrs, 11st-11 .... (Stott) 3

Also ran: Gate Book, Monduco, Great Span, Santabel, Aruntius. (Winner trained by Law.)

"Sporting Chronicle."—9 to 4 agst Lordi. 5 to 2 Monduco, 3 to 1 ALIKE, 10 to 1 Young Prince, 100 to 6 others. 5l, 3l.

Tote.—Win, 9s. 9d.; places 3s., 3s. 6d., 2s. 9d.; win pool, 11,101; place pool, 6,550.

3.0.—PRIORY STEEPLECHASE (£150) (2m. 310yds.).

Prince of Athens (Mr. Whitelaw), b g by My Prince—Nemœa, 4yrs, 10st-12 (Mr. Thackray) 1
Rodmell (Capt. Westmacott), b g by Duke of Brandon—Gluckvogel, 6yrs, 11st-9 (Brookes) 2
Green Eagle (Mr. Norman), b g by Craig an Eran—Miss Sainfoin, 5yrs, 11st-7 (Linigan) 3

Also ran: Grandene, Master Orange, Moontoy, Jack Ketch, Clanchy, Logic, Zorro Gris. (Winner trained by Whitelaw.)

"Sporting Chronicle."—11 to 10 agst PRINCE OF ATHENS, 4 to 1 Green Eagle, 13 to 2 Clanchy, 8 to 1 Grandene, Master Orange, 100 to 7 others. 5l, 4l.

Tote.—Win, 3s 6d.; places, 2s. 9d., 8s. 3d., 3s. 6d.; win pool, 10,484; place pool, 7,224.

3.30.—STRAWBERRY HILL HURDLE (£200) (2m.).

Nestorian (Mrs. Wallace), b g by Archaic—Placentia, 5yrs, 12st .... (Speck) 1
Persian Sun (Mr. Brandt), br g by Chosroes—Heliope, 4yrs, 11st-11 ... (McCarthy) 2
Nick of Time (Capt. Montague), b c by Heverswood — Acclamation, 3yrs., 10st-7 (Keogh) 3

Also ran: Rainbow Bridge, Carbineer, Eileandonan. Chichester Cross, Nice Prospect, Claudine, Wivenhoe, Whitsbury, Simeon's Charm. (Winner trained by Beary.)

"Sporting Chronicle."—5 to 4 agst Nick of Time, 2 to 1 NESTORIAN, 6 to 1 Carbineer, 100 to 8 Rainbow Bridge, 100 to 6 others. 4l, 1½l.

Tote.—Win 5s. 3d.; places, 2s. 6d., 5s. 9d., 3s.; win pool 9,931; place pool, 7,276.

Total Investments.—Win, £5,724 12s.; place, £3,862 18s.

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TEST MATCH "PROBABLES."

WILL DEANE CAPTAIN SOUTH AFRICA?

JOHANNESBURG, Saturday.

That H. G. Deane will captain South Africa in the Test matches against the M.C.C. is the prediction of the cricket correspondent of the Johannesburg "Star," who is usually well informed. No definite decision, however, has yet been reached. South Africa's team for the first Test, which begins here on Christmas Eve, is forecast by the same correspondent as follows:—

H. G Deane (Transvaal) (captain), H. W. Taylor (Transvaal), B. Mitchell (Transvaal), V. S. Curnow (Transvaal), X. Balaskas (Griqualand West), I. J. Siedle (Natal), H. B. Cameron (Western Province) Q McMillan (Transvaal), C. L. Vincent (Transvaal). E. P. Nupen (Transvaal), E. S. Newson (Transvaal).

No fewer than eight of this team belong to Transvaal, the Currie Cup holders, who very nearly beat the M.C.C. earlier in the month, while seven, Deane, Taylor, Mitchell, Siedle, Cameron, McMillan, and Vincent came to England under Deane's inspiring leadership in 1929. Three of the team, Balaskas, Curnow, and Newson, have yet to play in a Test.

Taylor, Mitchell, Curnow, Siedle, Cameron, Deane, and Balaskas would give the side great strength in batting. Taylor's ability is well known; Mitchell is regarded as South Africa's second best batsman; Curnow is a steady opening batsman with a fine defence; Siedle is the holder of the individual record—265 not out—in Currie Cup cricket; Cameron is the wicket-keeper and captain of Western Province, who made a century in his first Test in England; Deane is a dashing "Chapman" kind of batsman, always ready to knock the bowlers off their length when his side is in a corner; Balaskas is the brilliant 19-year-old Griqualand West all-rounder, who played against Captain Stanyforth's team when a schoolboy of 16. He is looked upon as the "discovery" of the last Currie Cup season, during which he made some fine scores.

Nupen, Vincent, McMillan, and Newson could form the main attack. Nupen is South Africa's greatest bowler on matting wickets. Vincent is a medium-paced left-hander with an effortless action; McMillan toured England with Deane's team, and Vincent, another medium paced left-hander, did well against the last M.C.C. touring side. Balaskas is a good change bowler of the googly type.—Reuter's Special Service.

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Sunday Times
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SITUATIONS REQUIRED.
Continued from next column.

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DEMOBILISED OFFICERS AND MEN WAITING SITUATIONS.

The Proprietors of the SUNDAY TIMES *have placed this space at the disposal of the British Legion Officers' Association Employment Bureau, 34, Clement's Inn, Strand, London, W.C.2 (Telephone, Holborn 5769), to whom all replies should be addressed, quoting number of advertisement, date of insertion, and the name of this paper.*

SALES ENGINEER, 38, nine years' wide practical and commercial experience, electrical and mechanical; advertising, estimating, exports. Dis. 346.

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COOK-GENERAL and Housemaid wanted, Jan. 10; experienced; age 25-30; good reference; state wages; apply by letter.—Mrs. Stephenson, 3, Pierrepoint Road, Acton, W.3.

WANTED, Cook-General; experience and good refs. essential; wages £45.—Apply, writing, Barnham, Brooklands, Wray Park, Reigate.

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GENERAL MAID required, small modern house; 3 in family.—5, Edgeworth Crescent, Hendon Central, N.W.4. 'Phone, Hendon 8756.

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WANTED, good General Maid, with knowledge of cooking and good references; comfortable home; three in family.—G., 71, Dyne Road, Brondesbury, N.W.6.

WANTED, a good General, January 5; good plain cooking; four in family.—Apply by letter, Mrs. Chadwick, Park House, Oatlands Drive, Weybridge.

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HOUSE-PARLOURMAID wanted, age 25-35, appreciating consideration and harmony; wages £45; cook-general kept; family 3, two extra for vacations.—Mrs. Young, 60, Croham Valley Rd., South Croydon.

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CIVIL Servant's Widow desires Matron's or congenial post.—174, Wincheap Street, Canterbury.

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